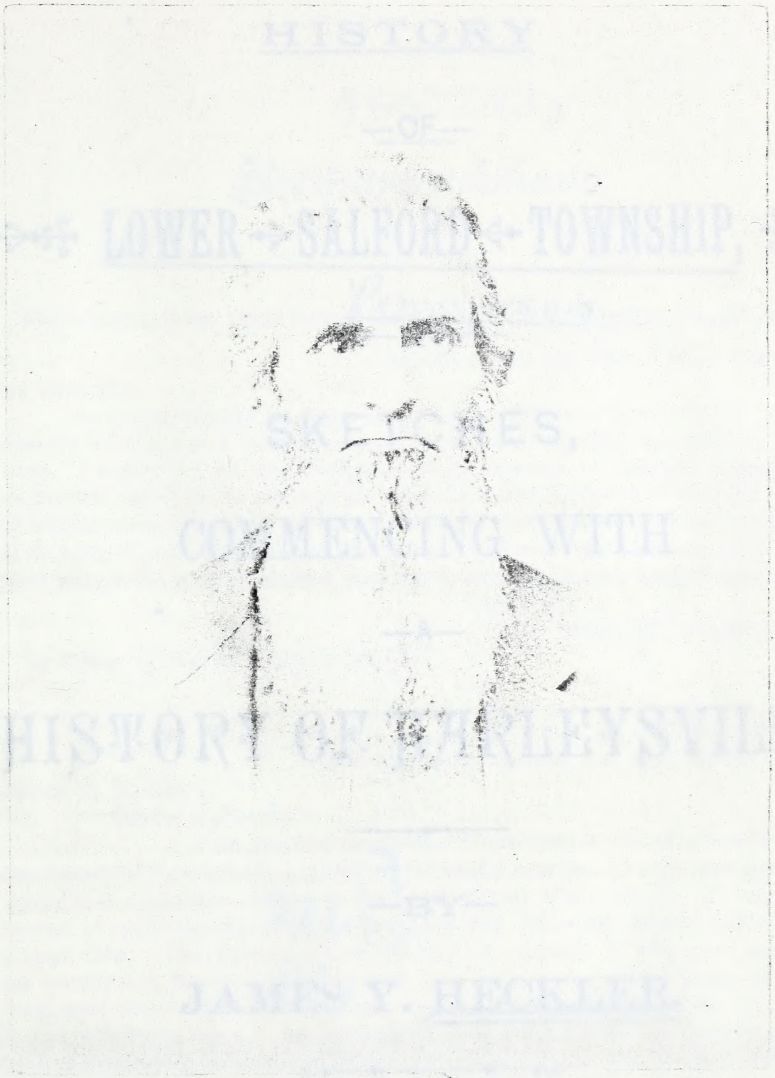


James Y. Heckler

HISTORY

—OF—

LOWER SALFORD TOWNSHIP,

Pennsylvania

—IN—

SKETCHES,

COMMENCING WITH

—A—

HISTORY OF HARLEYSVILLE,

—BY—

JAMES Y. HECKLER.

HARLEYSVILLE, PA.:
PRINTED AT THE WEEKLY NEWS OFFICE.
1888.

Recommendations.

The following letter from Judge Pennypacker, of Philadelphia, speaks for itself:

No. 209 S. 6th St., Phila. March 23, 1889.

My Dear Sir:

I have just finished reading a copy of your History of Lower Salford, which I recently bought, and I wish to express to you my very high appreciation of your work. I regard it from the standpoint of the amount of original information it contains as one of the best efforts yet made for the preservation of our local history. It is quite evident that you have made a conscientious and painstaking investigation of the subject, and in this day of pretentious, inaccurate and mercenary publications, pretending to be county histories, your merit is deserving of extended recognition.

Very Truly

Saml. W. Pennypacker.

To James Y. Heckler, Harleysville, Pa.

Federalsburg, Caroline Co., Md., March 7, 1889.

James Y. Heckler:

Esteemed friend—

I am gratified to say that I received on Saturday last a copy of the History of Lower Salford which you so kindly sent me. I have gone over it and regard it as a valuable addition to the Local History of the county. As regards the holders of real estate there, it is remarkably full from the earliest period to the present time. The impression from the type for clearness is very good and makes me wonder how they could do it so well from a common printing press, as for fine book work they have especial presses. * * * Such works as yours, for instance in your township, can do much to diffuse an interest in history and help to do away with novel reading for something more instructive. I am now 64 years old, yet I was the pioneer historian of Bucks and Montgomery counties.

In haste, very respectfully,

William J. Buck.

INDEX OF SUBJECTS.

	PAGE.		PAGE.
History of Harleysville	1.	John Sell	36.
John Philip Boehm	4.	Gabriel Klein	38.
The First Lot	7.	George Schwenk	39.
Abraham Krupp	9.	Baltzer Heydrick	40.
Mr. Klein	12.	Samuel Harley	42.
George Delp	14.	The Store	46.
John Isaac Klein	16.	Doctor Fronefield	48
The Dickenshieds	21.	The old Tavern	52.
Christian Funk	22.	Several Houses	54.
The Funkites and Herrites	26.	The Postoffice	56.
The Tavern	31.	Stages and Stage Lines	57.
Nicholas Schwenk	33.	Harleysville	62.

SKETCHES OF LOWER SALFORD.

	PAGE.		PAGE.
John Sholl	69.	John Clemens	230.
John Vincent Meyer	71	Hans Michael Wagley	233.
George Reiff	74.	John William Gargas	236.
Michael Ziegler	76.	John Valentine Kratz	249.
Christian Stauffer	77.	Jacob Price	262.
Jacob Reiff	81.	Dirk Johnson's land	286.
Jacob Hoffman	113.	Henry Funk	290.
Dielman Kolb	117.	Rudolph Harley	301.
The Zieglers	127.	Abraham H. Cassel	315.
John Lederach	135.	Christian Moyer	320.
Colla Hefflefinger	142.	Andrew Schwartz	329.
Nicholas Holdeman	146.	Peter Becker	334.
Hans Weirman	149.	The Krupp Farm	338.
Christian Holdeman	151.	John Johnson	343.
Hans Ulrich Bergey	156.	" "	348.
Hans Reiff	162.	Joseph M. Cassel's Farm	355.
Frederick Alderfer	165.	The Frank Nice Farm	356.
Peter Freed	171.	One Thousand Acres	359.
George Heckler	177.	Frederick Getz	362.
Gabriel Shuler	183.	Jacob Arndt	365.
Henry Ruth	189.	Mainland	369.
Christian Allebach	193.	Henry Slingluff	375.
Andrew Lederach	199.	Camp Ground	379.
Lederachville	205.	Hans George Delp	384.
Gerhart Clemens	210.	George Hoffman	386.
Jacob Clemens	218.	Rev. Balthasar Hoffman	389.
Abraham Clemens	222.	George Yeakel	396.

SKETCHES OF LOWER SALFORD.

	Page.		Page.
Christopher Krieble	401.	Educational	434.
Casper and George Heydrick	404.	The Poor	441.
Tax List of 1734	408.	A List of 1760	449.
Assessment of 1776	409.	1788—A List	450.
The Skippack Reformed Church	413.	Constables	451.
The Mennonite Church	420.	Supervisors	451.
The Brethren or Dunkard Church	426.	Concluding Remarks	453.
The Schwenkfelder Church	429.		

CORRECTIONS AND EXPLANATIONS.

PAGE 8. Christopher Dock did not live at Henry Cassel's in Salford, but at Henry Cassel's in Skippack, near the Skippack road, one mile below Skippackville. There were two Henry Cassel's at that time.

PAGE 29. Henry Rosenberger, a Mennonite minister, lived in the Indian Creek valley, where Michael Swartley now lives

PAGE 36. Andrew Campbell was the constable of Lower Providence in 1810.

PAGE 39. Sarah wife of Henry Weishe of Upper Salford was not a daughter of George Schwenk as I had been informed by a relative, but of Jacob Schwenk of Upper Providence, and Henry Schwenk was her brother.

PAGE 42. Henry Shisler's house burnt away June 21, 1887, and a new one was built.

PAGE 82. Robert Hill should be Richard Hill, and Richard Ashton should be Robert Ashton.

PAGE 113. Elizabeth Hendricks, wife of George Reiff, was born April 9, 1740.

PAGE 122 and 126, in the third line from the bottom, Catharine, is a mistake, and should be Elizabeth Ziegler. She was the wife of Abraham Detweiler of Worcester. See bottom of page 128.

PAGE 138. by mistake is numbered 132.

PAGE 139. Godshalk Godshalk and wife sold to their son, Jacob, a messuage and 128 acres &c—"messuage" was unintentionally omitted.

PAGE. 149. Henry Weirman lived on the Charles T. Johnson farm and Christian Weirman on the late Pannepacker farm.

PAGE 168. Abraham Alderfer. See page 351.

PAGE 192. John Clemmer's children were, Abraham, John and Jacob, Catharine, wife of Peter Boorse; Susanna, wife of Daniel Boorse; Margaret, wife of John Clemens; Edith, wife of Conrad Haring; and Mary, wife of John Lederach. Peter and Daniel Boorse lived in Towamencin.

PAGE 197. Jacob Clemens, Jr. removed from Gwynedd to the southern part of Worcester. He had two or three sons: one of them was John who was married twice; one of his wives was Margaret Clemmer as above stated. He had four sons by his first wife Margaret, and four by the second who was Susan Wismer. The first four sons were Jacob, John, Daniel and Aaron: the other four were Abraham, Henry, James and Samuel. Jacob Clemens their grandfather is buried at the Mennonite meeting-house in Worcester.

PAGE 198. John Clemens, brother to the above Jacob, died March 25, 1831, aged 79 years, 4 months and 27 days His wife, Hannah, *nee* Price, died July 24, 1824, aged 61 years, 2 months and 24 days.

PAGE. 231. by mistake 281. Garret Clemens and his family, who lived near the Three Tons, are buried in the Dunkard burying ground in Germantown. They belonged to that church.

present Sexton is Mahlon Schlotter who came here after Schatz, and has lived here thirteen years already. The present residence of the Sexton was built by the church in 1851 or 1852.

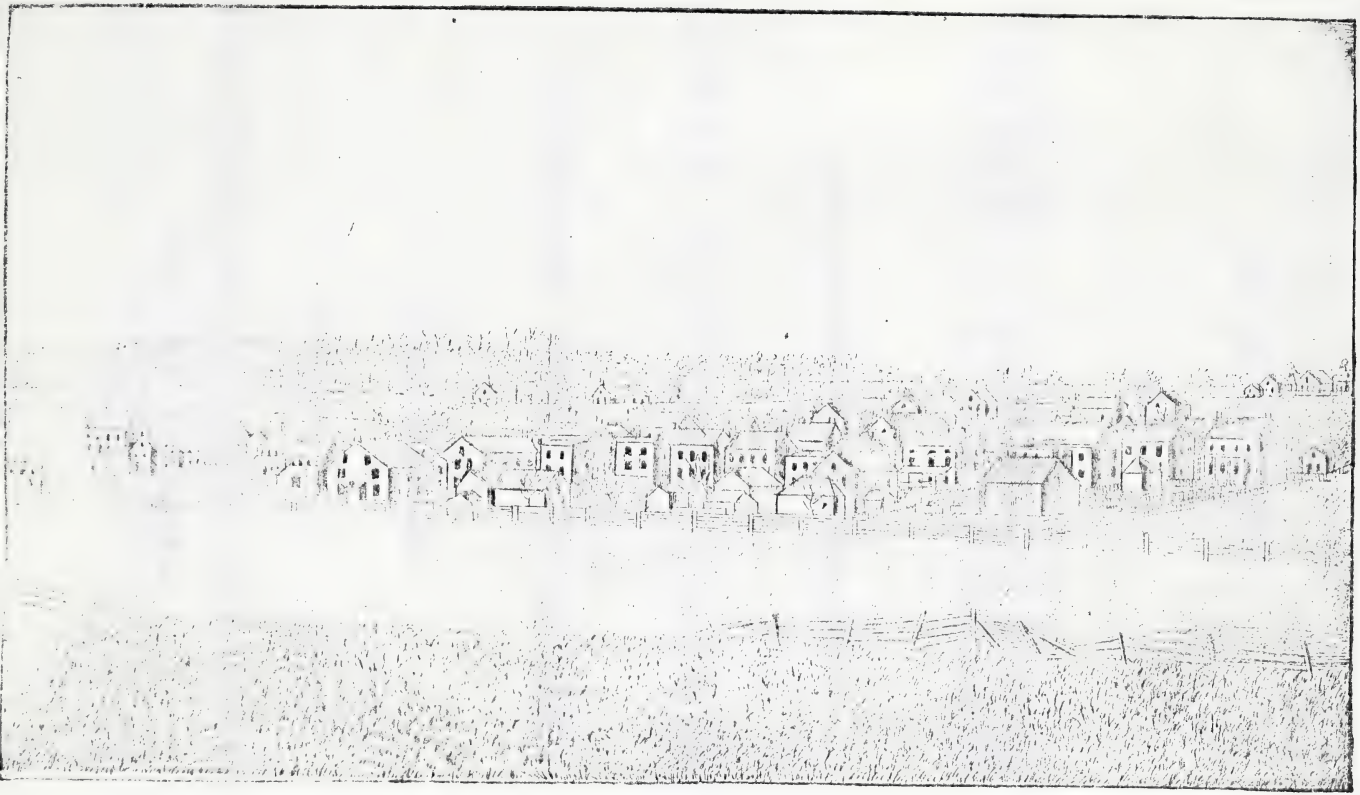
PAGE 441. Alderfer's and Ziegler's School houses both were built in 1841 or 1842.

PAGE 449. Abraham H. Cassel says those figures opposite each name in the list of 1760, were "to designate the number of days that each man had to keep the pauper according to his *Pro rata* valuation.

ERRATA.

There are a number of mistakes in this book and very often only one letter in a word makes the blunder as will be seen by the following *errata* of the most important mistakes that have been noticed:

Page 1,	Column 2,	Line 10,	belonging read belonged.
" 6,	" 2,	" 2,	abjoining read adjoining.
" 10,	" 1,	" 1,	read I. D. Rupp.
" 19,	" 2,	" 21,	'Spire read 'Squire.
" 24,	" 1,	" 11,	emigrated
" 24,	" 1,	" 20,	"which," is superfluous.
" 30,	" 2,	" 18,	af read of.
" 46,	" 1,	" 11,	as are, read, as we find.
" 62,	" 1,	" 5,	driven read drawn.
" 81,	" 1,	" 24,	May 33, read 23.
" 120,	" 1,	" 20,	"from" belongs at the other end of the line after land.
" 120,	" 2,	" 16,	Mordecai.
" 123,	" 2,	" 4,	descened read descended.
" 137,	" 1,	" 19,	put comma after gave.
" 138,	" 2,	" 14,	Jacob Beiff read Reiff.
" 149,	" 2,	" 22,	He was probably the ancestor.
" 152,	" 1,	" 10,	therefore read therefor.
" 172,	" 2,	" —	in next to lower line add "not."
" 178,	" 2,	" 18,	Catharine read Christiana.
" 179,	" 2,	" 21,	vestage read vestige.
" 188,	" 2,	" 5,	1864 read 1846.
" 190,	" 1,	" 3,	mortgagees.
" 202,	" 1,	" 8,	know read known.
" 206,	" 2,	" 7,	a large table contained.
" 207,	" 1,	" 6,	that read than.
" 213,	" 1,	" 15,	Saford read Salford.
" 229,	" 2,	" 6,	1817 read 1718.
" 264,	" 1,	" 6,	"in" Upper Salford.
" 267,	" 1,	" 2,	52 read 25.
" 269,	" 2,	" 15,	he, read the.
" 270,	" 2,	" 8,	use read used.
" 272,	" 1,	" 8,	up on his land to a certain mark.
" 297,	" 1,	" 20,	from that "time" on.
" 299,	" 1,	" 20,	years read acres.
" 311,	" 1,	" 4,	Catharine read Christiana.
" 377,	" 2,	" 18,	conveded read conveyed.
" 391,	" 1,	" 7,	Ziegendorf read Zinzendorf.
" 395,	" 1,	" 12,	1721 read 1821.
" 403,	" 2,	" 19,	1749 read 1849.
" 403,	" 2,	" 25,	not Isaac, but Israel Ruth.
" 408,	" 2,	" 9,	read borders, not boarders.
" 422,	" 1,	" 3,	thereof read thereon.
" 435,	" 1,	" 21,	add "them," among them.
" 449,	" 1,	" 10,	who read whom.
" 455,	" 1,	" 5,	then read than.



PART OF HARLEYSVILLE AS SEEN FROM THE NORTH.

HISTORY

—OF—

HARLEYSVILLE

AND HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF

LOWER SALFORD TOWNSHIP,

Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

BY JAS. Y. HECKLER.

PUBLISHED BY
BENJAMIN L. GEHMAN,
HARLEYSVILLE, PA.
1886.

HISTORY OF HARLEYSVILLE.

In writing a history of Harleysville we shall endeavor to present, at least, some facts to the public which have hitherto not been generally known, and if it be shown that on the same principle by which America should have received the name of Columbia, Harleysville should have been called Schwenksville, The latter misnomer will be found a matter of less injustice than the former.

It is generally known that the great thoroughfare extending through Harleysville was located there in 1735. In old manuscripts extant it is called the Maxatawny road, in others the North Wales road. At the time this road was located here the the land on the southwest side of it, from the line separating the present owners, Joseph M. Cassel and Henry C. Delp, extending up the road—though the road was not on the line at all places—to the Shutts' road below Henry A. Price's barn, belonging to John Isaac Klein, whose residence was where Abraham S. Alderfer's now is. It had been purchased in two tracts. At what date and of whom Mr. Klein purchased the tract on which his residence was we have not yet been able to learn; but we know that it was before the year 1728. On the northwest side, bounding the

whole breadth of the first tract, he purchased another tract containing 123 acres from Derrick Johnson and Margaret his wife in 1734. This tract was a regular paralelogram, 112 perches wide by 126 perches long, extending down to the present school house lot in the village. This gives us some idea how far down the thousand-acre tract of Derrick Johnson extended. Christian Meyers and Hans Meyers, on the northeast side of the great road, had also purchased from him.

As the greater part of Harleysville is built on the northeast side of the road we will turn over to that side and see how things were carried on there for a while. Here we find that on the 23d day of November, 1728, Henry Pannepacker, of Skepeck*, and Eve, his wife, conveyed to Christian Stauffer, of Solford, a tract of land containing 150 acres and 154 perches, extending on the southeast exactly as far down as Mr Klein's land, or as far as the line between Joseph M. Cassel and Henry C. Delp, and up the said road northwest, to a point at present unknown. He held possession of this farm something over six years. "And the said Christian Stauffer being owner of the premises, and having erected a message with other buildings and made a plantation thereon, made his will and testament in writing dated February 26, 1735, and therin nominated his loving and trusty neighbors, Christian Allebach and Christian Myers, Jr., to be the executors of his will, directing them to sell all his property, and shortly after making his will the testator died." His will was probated July 12, 1735. The witnesses were Andrew Swartz and Jacob Funk. The names of the children were first, a daughter, Annalee; next, the sons, Mathias, Christian, Hans

*In old manuscripts Skippack is written Skepeck, and in German it was written Skippack. Salford was first written Solford.

Ulrich, Peter, Jacob and another daughter, Barbara, a son Henry and a daughter Elizabeth. The latter was only four years and a half old when the will was made.

About the time of said Christian Stauffer's demise there was another Christian Stauffer, who purchased 118 acres of land in the lower end of the township, where I. D. Alderfer now lives, which was held in the family until about the year 1850. The latter Christian Stauffer died in 1781, and his two sons, Mathias and John Ulrich were the executors of his will. We here find a similiarity in the names of the children of the two families. There was also another Christian Stauffer in the township who purchased a tract of land from Henry Ruth in 1747. This was probably the son of the first named Christian Stauffer, deceased. We would not know that the latter two were not both one and the same man if it were not for the different names of their wives.

Stauffer is a German name and doubtless had as good a definition in the district where it originated as Taylor and Mason have in the English. We find, however, that the name has been variously written by Pennsylvanians, as Stauffer, Stauver and laterly Stover. From what has been said it will be seen that the first buildings erected on the Binder farm at Harleysville were put up there by Christian Stauffer, probably about the year 1729, and the first owner was Henry Pannepacker, the ancestor of the widely extended Pennepacker family.

It appears that the executors of Christian Stauffer's will, by force and virtue thereof, acted as such functionaries before the will was probated; though such action would not stand now, it had no evil result then. For we find that in less than four weeks after the will was made, on March 22d, 1735, those two executors, Christian Allebach

and Christian Myers, Jr., conveyed the said tract of land containing 150 acres and 154 perches, to John Philip Bœhm, of Whitpain; Gabriel Shuler, of Salford, and Ulrich Stephen, whose residence is not given. The will was proven on the 12th of July afterward. The boundaries are thus described: Beginning at a post in a line of Hans Myer's land; thence extending southeast by Claus Obliker's land ninety perches to a post; thence by vacant land and land of Conrad Custer southwest 130 perches to a hickory sapling at a corner of said Custer's land; thence southeast thirty-seven perches to a corner post of John Janson's land; thence by the same southwest ninety-eight perches to a post at a corner of John Isaac Klein's land; thence by the same northwest 127 perches to a post at a corner of Hans Myer's land; thence by the same northeast 228 perches to the place of beginning.

It will thus be seen who some of their neighbors were at that time, though it is more than probable that the boundaries were only copied from the deed which Christian Stauffer received from Henry Pennepacker and Eve, his wife, because we know for a certainty that the place owned by Conrad Custer was the residence of Christian Croll at the time when those two executors made their conveyance. Mr. Croll did not own that place many years before he sold it to Jacob Krupp, whose descendants still live there.

After the aforesaid trio-party had owned the premises over seven years Gabriel Shuler and Ulrich Stephen, on the 13th day of July, 1742, sold out their two-third interest therein to their third partner,

JOHN PHILIP BŒHM.

We find in the history of Whitpain that the latter owned 150 acres in Skippack, and this was undoubtedly the tract, for then all the country drained by that stream was known by that

name.

We are not yet giving our readers a history of Harleysville, but only of the Binder farm, on which a large portion of said village is built. It further appears that the said Christian Stauffer had applied to the proper officials for a confirmatory patent for his land, that one had been written dated December 22d, 1734, but on account of his early demise, soon afterward, it was withheld, and afterward, by his ex-executors as witnesses, corroborated and confirmed to Mr. Bœhm before George Boone, Esq., on the 9th day of April, 1745.

For the sake of those of our readers who may not know what a patent was or is, we will say, it was a deed or conveyance issuing from the patentees, William Penn, and after him, John Penn, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, which was granted by the government officials to the purchaser of the land, and that no good deed could be given for any land which was not, at some time, covered by a patent.

On the same day, April 9th, 1745, John Philip Bœhm and Anna Maria, his wife, conveyed 100 acres of his land to Henry Meyer, for £100; the aforementioned Christian Allebach and Christian Myer serving as witnesses. This 100 acre tract was a regular paralelogram, having seventy perches and three feet front on the great road, and a depth of 228 perches, or nearly three-fourths of a mile, extending back nearly to the line of Franconia. How it came that, in those days when over-measure in land was generally given, in this case it did not hold out is hard to account for; for we find that the remainder of Mr. Bœhm's tract did not contain more than forty-nine acres and 126 perches. People made mistakes then, too, and were as fallible as they are now. However, on the 28th day of December, 1745, Mr.

Bœhm and his wife conveyed the remaining forty-nine acres and 126 perches of land to Henry Deenig, This is the tract, which, with other lands since added thereto, is now owned by Frank Nice.

For the sake of those who do not know who this John Philip Bœhm was, we will yet add that he was a minister of the gospel, and was the founder of Bœhm's church in Whitpain township, near Blue Bell. He came to this country in 1720. Though he was no regular minister at that time, yet he found it necessary to preach and to establish churches, which he did in the German Reformed faith.

Considering that Mr. Bœhm owned land here and was acquainted with the people around here, how very probable does it appear that he also preached for the people of his denomination in this vicinity if even we have no record of it. He died in 1749.

In 1745 Hans Myer was dead and Henry Myer, who had purchased those 100 acres abjoining, was probably his son, for he then owned fifty-four acres along the northwest side of his recently purchased 100 acre tract, making altogether 154 acres. But he appears to have been of an uneasy disposition and perhaps rather too light in the wing to hold it, because he had Gabriel Shuler associated in his contract.

Accordingly we find that Henry Myer and Elizabeth, his wife, and Gabriel Shuler on the 23d day of August following conveyed 101 acres ot land to Nicholas Oblinger. This was the same premises and 100 acres which he had purchased eight months previously, and one acre of his other land. Four months afterward, on December 24th 1745, Mr. Myer and his wife conveyed the remaining fifty-three acres to the aforesaid Nicholas Oblinger. But he appears to have been characteristic of uneasiness, and conse-

quently he and his wife, Elizabeth, after owning it six years, on the 3rd day of April, 1751, conveyed the same 154 acres of land to Adolph Pennepacker, of Limerick. He was a son of Henry Pennepacker and Eve, his wife, whose name is recited as the first owner of this tract.

THE FIRST LOT.

It was about this period, or perhaps earlier, that a lot of two acres and eighty-two perches, where Dr. Reinhart Keeler now lives, was cut out of the west corner of the tract. It will perhaps remain a secret who was the first owner of the said lot. We find, however, that Samuel Morris, Esq., High Sheriff for the city and county of Philadelphia, by virtue and in pursuance of a writ of *venditioni exponas* issued by the court of Common Pleas, September 23, 1752, after due notice, sold the aforesaid lot with improvements thereon to Gabriel Shuler. This house and lot may therefore be considered as the first house and lot in Harleysville.

The probability is that Mr. Shuler had an interest in this lot or else bought it because it was cheap, and therefore sold it again at the first opportunity. Consequently in about five and a half years, March 1st, 1758, Gabriel Shuler and his wife, Catharine, sold the said lot containing two acres and eighty-two perches of land, with improvements thereon, to the following company of twenty-seven men, namely: Rudolph Harley, Isaac Klein, Nicholas Schwenk, Martin Shawecker, Jacop Krupp, Peter Freed, Nicholas Johnson, John Johnson, Daniel Price, Frederick Alderfer, Christian Moyer, Jr., Hans Ulrich Stauffer, Jacob Clemens, Abraham Clemens, William Shuler, George Delp, Jacob Detweiler, Henry Rosenberger, Christian Funk, Jacob Hockman, Jacob Landes, miller, Christian Moyer, Sr., George Stump, Jacob Landes, George Weidner, Henry Moyer and Frederick Wambold, in fee, etc.

This lot was owned by the said company of men twenty-three years. But what was done there, or for what purpose it was used no one at the present day knows; nor is their any manuscript extant throwing light on the subject. Taking different matters into consideration the probability is that it was used for school purposes: that the teacher lived in the house and farmed the lot, and that a school house had been built near the dwelling because old people recollect that a large shop, as it was called, stood near the house.

If all those shareholders had been Mennonites exclusively we might suppose that this lot was occupied by some poor preacher, but as they were not all members of that church, but also Dunkards and Lutherans, the probability is that it was used for school purposes. But then it is strange that we have no evidence either way for what purpose it was used. If there was a school here it was taught in the German language, and the question arises, who was the teacher? It is possible, but not probable, that it was Christopher Dock, an old and popular teacher and a resident of Lower Salford, who at that time already, or soon after, lived with his son-in-law, Henry Cassel, near the line of Perkiomen township, about a mile northeast of Skippackville, on the farm at present owned by Nelson Bergey. That being at a distance of nearly four miles from Harleysville would have been very inconvenient for him; and the probability is that he taught at the Skippack meeting house, where he also held his membership.

In those twenty-three years ten of those men died. But on the 9th of April 1781 the seventeen survivors of the company conveyed the said lot to George Martin of Lower Salford, for the consideration of £140. After owning it three years, George Martin, cordwainer, and Mary,

his wife, conveyed their lot to Catharine Gelder, of Lower Salford, for the sum of £140. Two years later, on May 19th, 1786, Catharine Gelder conveyed the same to

ABRAHAM KRUPP,

for £150. This Abraham Krupp, was a native of Lower Salfoad, a descendant of Jacob Krupp, from whom all the Krupps in Towamencin, Hatfield and Franconia descended. A number of the descendants from that family scattered over the country, in the cities and towns, can trace their ancestry back to one of the said townships.

Abraham Krupp was a teacher of music, and the author of several musical works, namely: "The New and Much Improved Musical Teacher," and "A Choice Selection of Hymns." Aside from his musical talent he was an excentric person. Old people remember of his infatuation for flying, and like Darius Green he also invented a flying machine. He lived near Fairview, this county, in the vicinity of the old Presbyterian church when he made the experiment. He was, however, unsuccessful in his aeronatic expedition from the hogstable roof, and instead of ascending, descended safely to terrafirma. After owning the aforesaid lot of two acres and eighty-two perches of land six years, Abraham Krupp and his wife, Elizabeth, on the 1st of August, 1792, conveyed the same to Nicholas Schwenk. The original name of Krupp was Krob, as found in old manuscripts, from which we also have Grub, Grabb and Grob.

Andreas Kropp, who in all probability was the ancester of the Krupp family in this vicinity—Daniel Cropp and Christian Kropf emmigrated to America in company with Alexander Mack in the Ship Allen in 1729. Others of the same name also arrived some years later.

As it appears in the Martyr's Mirror English edition, by J.

D. Rupp, page 1024; when the German edition was nearly finished at Ephrata, in 1748, Christian Kropf came there with a long list of names of people who had been imprisoned at Berne in Switzerland, which had been copied from the prison records by Hans Loersch, while he was in prison for the testimony of the word of God, and dated September 26, 1667. A copy of this list was carefully preserved by Christian Kropf and was then put into the German edition after a *note* in the extract of the fifth letter from Obersueltzen, dated January 5, 1672, on page 1023 of the English edition.

Jacob Krupp (or Krob) was supervisor in Lower Salford in 1767 and 1768. On March 19th, 1768, the auditors, who were Christopher Dickensheid, Nicholas Schwenk, Jacob Reiff, Jr., and Christian Meyer settled his accounts. His expenditures for keeping all the roads in the township in repair for the year 1767 were £13 13s. His receipts by taxation were £16, 7s.; but then he paid over to his predecessor in office, Christian Halteman, £2, 14s., a balance due him, which made his account square. The next year his account stood: Receipts £18, 17s., 2d; expense, £17, 18s., 2d. Balance in hand 19s. The auditors were Christopher Krieble, Nicholas Schwenk, Henry Ledrach and Christian Bergie.

Jacob Krupp had a son Andrew who became the owner of his father's homestead. Abraham Krupp had a brother, John, who was a Mennonite preacher, and whose residence was near Krupp's school house in Towamencin.

As we have just mentioned what the expense for keeping the roads in repair was, we must also bear in mind that there were only three or four roads in the township at that time. The first one was the Skippack and Goschenhoppen road, as it was

then called, which was located there in 1728. The next the Maxatawny or North Wales road opened in 1735, as already mentioned in this article. The other was Morris' road which was opened in 1765. It is on this account I have introduced this subject here, because various dates of the opening of Morris' road are extant. Although we find this road mentioned in manuscript in a return for a road from Isaac Klein's to Good's mill in 1736, as "the road to Samuel Morris' mill," and in the history of Whitpain township we read that it was opened in 1741. It appears by the original petition and order for opening said road, which is still in the care of one of the supervisors of Lower Salford, that Morris' road was opened in 1765. There was some opposition to the road, because the first petition to the court of Philadelphia for the road was presented September 5th, 1763, and the order for opening the road was granted May 4th, 1765. All the bearings and distances are given, and the names of the people through whose land the road was to pass. The court granted a review as petitioned for, and appointed Jacob Umstead, Israel Jacobs, Thomas Austin, John Roberts, miller, John Vanderin and John Schrack to do it, and to make such alterations as they should judge necessary, which they did.

We will now return to the present Binder farm, which was then owned by Adolph Pennepacker, of Limerick, as already stated. But during those five years that he owned it it does not seem that he occupied it, and on June 9th, 1756, when he and his wife, Agnes, conveyed the farm to Nicholas Schwenk, a blacksmith, of Lower Salford, for £500. He still represented it as 154 acres, notwithstanding the lot which had been cut out of it. As Mr. Schwenk proved to be a substantial resident who

owned the farm until 1798. We will leave him in care of his farm or at his anvil while we step over to see

MR. KLEIN.

It is generally known in this vicinity that Isaac Klein or John Isaac Klein, as he is mostly named, kept a public house at his residence at an early period, and that half a mile farther down on the Little Branch, where G. D. Alderfer, Esq., now resides, Gabriel Shuler also kept a public house, though perhaps neither of them had a license. How long Mr. Klein kept a public house at his residence, where A. S. Alderfer now lives, is unknown, but it is certain that he put the first buildings where the present tavern stand in Harleysville is. The traditional story that Samuel Harley put those buildings there is incorrect as will be seen as we proceed further. But in what year Mr. Klein built the tavern is unknown, but it is probable that it was about the year 1750, for in 1758 we find him represented as an "Innholder." We find that he divided his large tract of land in Lower Salford into two tracts. He also owned several tracts in other townships of which we will speak hereafter. The farm now owned by A. S. Alderfer, including that of Henry C. Delp, went into the hands of his son, Gabriel Klein; while he himself, no doubt, lived in the tavern. But after living there some years and growing old he sold the tavern to David Streib, then of Lower Salford but later of Whitemarsh, for £500. The conveyance bears date December 6th, 1764. It is described as "a plantation and two tracts of land." The one tract containing twenty-three acres and 120 perches, the other eighty-one acres and forty perches, adjoining each other, taken together made 105 acres. It is mentioned in the commencement of this article that Mr. Klein had purchased his land in two tracts along the great road;

and now these eighty-one acres and forty perches were the greater part of the upper tract which contained 123 acres. Those eighty-one and one-fourth acres are now contained in the Moyer and Overholtzer farms. At some time during those four years that Mr. Streib owned this land he sold off about fifty-one acres to Christian Moyer, which is now contained in Overholtzer's farm. The line between Henry C. Delp and Abraham S. Alderfer on the one side and the tavern lot on the other, was exactly the same in 1764 and 1768 as it is now. It went around that spring then already by the same bearings and distances as now, but the distance from the road up to the spring was then given as forty perches, whereas in the deed given by Andrew Campbell to Samuel Harley in 1795, and in all deeds given since, the same distance is forty-five perches. The other distances, as given in the latter deed, are also longer, and the tract instead of containing twenty-three acres and 120 perches, then contained thirty-two acres and sixty-seven perches. The number of acres according to the distances given in both deeds is right in each one. The starting point of the survey in both tracts was up on the present school house lot, in the line which divides the said lot from John Moyer's farm. Thus, beginning at a marked white oak in a line of George Delp's land; thence by the same and land of Nicholas Schwenk southeast sixty-five perches to a stone, a corner of Gabriel Klein's land; thence by same south fifty-three degrees west forty perches to a stone; thence northwest three and one-half perches to a stone—this is now around the spring—thence southwest one perch to a stone; thence south four perches to a stone; thence south fifty-three degrees west twenty-six perches to a white oak; thence northwest fifty-five perches to a stone;

thence by said David Streib's other land northeast sixty-eight perches to the place of beginning. While in the latter deed from the place of beginning down the road to Gabriel Klein's land, the distance of sixty-five perches is increased to 78.4 perches; and the distance on the southwest side from a white oak northwest was increased from fifty-five perches to 61.8 perches; and the distance northeast to the place of beginning was increased from sixty-eight perches to seventy-five perches.

All these lines are still where they were first laid, and stones were placed at the corners, but it appears that the first survey as given in 1764 was very incorrect.

When the first survey was made George Delp owned the farm which is now owned by Jacob A. Kulp, and in 1795 it was owned by his son, Isaac Delp.

As can still be seen the old road, before the turnpike was made, bore considerably to the right above Dr. Keeler's house in going up, which cut off a narrow strip of George Delp's land over to the present school house lot and the fields adjoining up as far as the other road, part of which was purchased by John Sell about the year 1835, with some other land, and the lines were laid in the road some time afterward. One acre and a quarter was purches by S. H. Cassel from Dr. Fronefield, April 1, 1848.

GEORGE DELP.

As we have something to say about this George Delp we may perhaps as well say it now. He is also known as Hans George Delp and as John George Delp. He emmigrated to America in 1738, and arrived at Philadelphia on the 28th of October of that year. He is the same man who purchased of Casper Wister and his wife, Catharine, 146 acres and ten perches of land on the Skippack in 1746, where he lived for some time, but after-

wards sold it to his son, John Delp. He was perhaps the ancestor of all the Delps in this part of the State. He had seven children, five sons and two daughters, namely, Samuel, George, John, Abraham and Isaac, and his daughters were Catharine and Elizabeth. He made his will on December 11, 1788, which was probated October 12th, 1789. The witnesses were Jacob Oberholtzer, Christian Moyer and Abraham Stout. His executors were his two sons, George and Abraham, and his son-in-law, Isaac Dirstein. He bequeathed £5 to the Mennonite meeting to which he belonged for the use of the poor. As there is no mention in his will of his wife, it appears that she was dead when the will was made, and he at that time lived with his son, Abraham, in Franconia township, on the premises now owned and occupied by Jacob Frederick, about a mile and a half north of Harleysville. That farm then containing 146 acres he bequeathed to his son, Abraham, and the farm in Lower Salford, where Jacob A. Kulp now lives, at Harleysville, containing 150 acres he bequeathed to his son, Isaac. It was then bounded by lands of Jacob Moyer, Nicholas Schwenk and others. He does not make mention in his will of the farm on the Skippack which he sold to his son, John, and which is now divided into three tracts and is owned and occupied by Benjamin Ruth, George Heckler and Isaac Rosenberger. This tract was a part of one thousand acres which Charles Reed, High Sheriff for the city and county of Philadelphia, sold as the property of Joseph Jones, to Casper Wister and John Johnson, by a deed bearing date June 3rd, 1730.

George Delp, one of the executors of his father's will, then lived in Hilltown, Bucks county, and Isaac Dirstein, also an executor and a son-in-law, lived in Rockhill, and Abraham Delp in

Franconia, as already stated, and they gave John Delp a deed dated May 21st, 1791, in which reference is made to an agreement between father and son showing that he was charged £825 for the farm on the Skippack, which nine years later he sold to George Heckler, for £1500.

In regard to Abraham Delp a typographical error was incorporated into our late History of Montgomery County, where, in the history of Franconia Township, in the tax list of 1794, on page 827, Abraham Delp is called Abraham Du'p. And now the author of the History of Franconia Township, as published in the Harleysville WEEKLY NEWS instead of correcting the mistake, has copied it as genuine. If anything in the world can be called plagiarism, it is when one author copies another's errors and passes them off as his own genuine facts.

There would be yet a good deal to be said about these Delps, but lest we become tedious, we will merely mention yet that one of them removed over to the Pine Run, in Doylestown township, Bucks county, where they became English, and others since emmigrated to the western States.

JOHN ISAAC KLEIN.

The name of John Isaac Klein appears on a petition to Governor Gorden in 1728, asking for relief against what they had suffered from the Indians who had fallen upon the back inhabtants about Falkner Swamp and Goschenhoppen. Though this petition is represented as coming from the inhabitants of Colebrookdale, there are quite a number of names of the early settlers of Salford and Perkiomen townships on it. Mr. Klein's name on that paper is no evidence of his residence at this place at that time, but we find it in deeds of bordering tracts of the same date, so that he certainly was here before 1728.

Abraham Delp, born March 13, 1756, married Barbara, daughter of Christian Clemmer; they had nine children whose names were Catharine, Margaret, Elizabeth, George, Mary, Sarah, Susan, Nancy and Barbara. Abraham Delp died April 27, 1838, aged 82 years, 1 month and 14 days. His wife Barbara died Feb. 21, 1825, aged 63 years, 5 months and 6 days.

Catharine Delp b. m. David Rosenberger.

Margaret Delp b. m. Jacob Ruth.

Elizabeth Delp b. m. Jacob Bealer.

George Delp b. Aug. 30, 1785, m. Susanna Godshalk. He died Aug. 26, 1844, aged 59 y. & 6 d. She died March 20, 1848, aged 57 y. & 4 mos.

Mary Delp b. m. Samuel Shelly.

Sarah Delp b. April 25, 1800. m. Samuel Kreipp. She died June 17, 1869, aged 69 y. 1 m. & 22 d. He died Dec 31, 1858, aged 81 y. 10 m. & 5 d.

Susan Delp b. Dec. 3, 1792, died Jan. 3, 1874, aged 81 y. and 1 month. She was never married.

Ann Delp b. Nov. 4, 1804, m. John Heckler. She died March 8, 1845, aged 40 y. 4 m. & 4 d.

Barbara Delp b. Sept. 19, 1794, m. Jacob Heckler. She died Nov. 16, 1860, aged 66 y. 1 m. and 27 days.

Jacob Heckler died January 5, 1870, aged 90 y. & 16 d.

Isaac Delp, born Nov. 8, 1761, married Anna Benner, and had seven children. He died Jan. 26, 1829, aged 67 years 2 months and 18 days. His wife Anna b. Feb. 7, 1757 died Aug. 30, 1832, aged 75 years, 5 months and 22 days. Their children were

George Delp, b. May 4, 1784, m. Mary Ziegler. They had 2 children, Isaac and Sallie. George Delp died Nov. 3, 1866, aged 82 y. 5 m. and 29 d. His wife died in 1861, age not known. They are buried in Salford.

Elizabeth b. m. Jacob Benner.

Ann Delp b. in Philadelphia. m. Jacob Benner. They lived

Catherine Delp b. June 12, 1793 m. John Loch.

Mollie Delp b. March 25, 1795 died Sept. 12, 1869, aged 74 y. 5 m. & 17 d. m. Martin Whisler b. Sept. 28, 1802, died Aug. 22, 1880. aged 77 y 10 m & 24 d

Isaac Delp b. m Anna Weirman

John Delp b. July 29, 1796, m. Rachel Shrauber. He died Nov. 2, 1881, aged 84 y. 3 m. & 3 d. She died Nov. 9, 1881, aged 80 y. 6 m. & 26 d. buried in Salford.

John Isaac Klein, who was born January 10th, 1689, died November 24th, 1774, aged 85 years, 10 months and 14 days. But his wife, Sibilla, who was born June 18th 1694, survived him less than five months, or until April 18th, 1775, when she also died, aged 80 years and ten months. His will was made August 23d, 1773, and was probated December 7th, 1774. His witnesses were Peter Stong, Frederick Dickenshied and Melchoir Wagoner. It appears at the time he made his will, his wife must have been quite smart yet, or at least he thought she was, for after providing well for her as his widow he also made provision for her by which she was to receive less in case she would marry again. They had eight children, five sons and three daughters, their names were John, George, Jacob, Richard, Gabriel, Ann Mary married to Leonard Melchoir, Ann Margaret married to Jacob Button and Sibilla, wife of John Yerger.

We are indebted to the kindness of Mr. Henry S. Dotterer, of Philadelphia, for an abstract of the aforesaid will, by which it appears that his son, John Klein, was twice married, and the children of his first wife, named Jacob, John, Ann Mary and Salome, together were to receive half of his share, or one-half of one-eighth of the estate, and he was to receive the other half. The estate was divided into eight equal shares; and his executors, in his own words, were "My trusty son-in-law, Leonard Melchoir, and my son, George Klein." They together were to receive £80, or $213.33 for settling his estate. He also bequeathed to the Dutch Society in Philadelphia, to the managers for the time being, the sum of £10 in money to be applied to the use of the poor and needy under their care. To the Dutch Lutheran church in Upper Salford he gave five pounds in money for the use of said church.

This, of course, was the old Goschenhoppen church. The "Dutch Society" is the German society of Philadelphia, still in existence, whose object is to care for the newly arrived German immigrants.

On the 18th of February, 1736, a tract of land containing 301 acres, located mostly in Upper Salford township, was conveyed to John Isaac Klein. It laid on both sides of the great road which had been cut through it the previous year, and is now owned and occupied by Leonard Oelshlager, Jonas Harley, Jermiah Shelly, William Nice and others. This tract was originally surveyed to John Umstead on the 6th of March, 1723, by virtue of a warrant dated May 2d 1719, for a certain tract of land on a branch of the Perkiomen creek, and the bounds are thus given: Beginning at a white oak tree in a line of Jacob Price's land; thence by land belonging to the society of Free Traders northwest 270 perches to a post at a corner of Dirk Johnson's land; thence by the same northeast 189 perches to a hickory tree; thence by vacant land southeast 270 perches to a post; thence southwest by vacant land and land of the said Jacob Price 189 perches to place of beginning.

In 1741, when the township was divided into Upper and Lower, a small portion of this tract was cut off into Lower Salford. John Umstead appears to have been an old man, and therefore transferred this land to his son, Jacob Umstead, who, in 1735, obtained a reconfirmatory patent for it, and afterwards he and his wife, Ann, sold it to John Isaac Klein, who owned it twenty-two years, or until March 11th, 1758, when he and his wife, Sibilla, granted and confirmed this land in two tracts of 150½ acres each to their two sons, Jacob Klein and Richard Klein. Father Klein also had another tract of forty-nine acres and sixty-one perches

which he had bought of the Penns December 18th, 1733. This tract they also divided at the same time into two equal parts of twenty-four acres and 111 perches each, and transferred them to the said two sons, Jacob and Richard, under the same date as the other

It appears also that they owned a tract of 190 acres in Douglas township, which was granted to their daughter, Sibilla wife of John Yerger, and to her children after her. And for the use of said land John Yerger granted to Isaac Klein, of Lower Salford, and to his son-in-law, Leonard Melchoir, of Philadeldelphia, on the 8th of August, 1764, an annuity or yearly rent of £18, payable quarterly at the court terms of the county of Philadelphia. The quarterly payment was to be £4, 10s, "for and during the natural life of Sibilla, wife of the said John Yerger, and the daughter of the said Isaac Klein."

It appears that something was loose in the family, for it was provided that if the said Sibilla was "living and cohabiting" with Yerger at the said court terms, he was to pay but six pence to Klein and Melchoir.

Mr. H. S. Dotterer, of Philadelphia, to whom we are indebted for valuable information, says: "Leonard Melcher was a prominent member of the German Reformed church of Philadelphia. He was a merchant and for some time an inn keeper. In 1745, 1751 and 1753 he is described as a shop keeper in the city." He made his will February 17, 1777, which was proven April 17th, 1779. He had six children, namely, Isaac, who was a 'spuire; Mary, wife of Frances Casper Hasenclever; Elizabeth, wife of Jacob Shallus, Adam, who was absent, and his whereabouts unknown at that time, Jacob and Esther. His wife, Ann Mary, daughter of J. Isaac Klein, must have been dead at the time his will was made, though it was only three years

after her father's death—since no mention is made of her in his will.

John Daniel Bouton (now Button), a Frenchman, who arrived in the ship Samuel, August 29th, 1739, also a prominent member of the German Reformed church of Philadelphia had a son Jacob Bouton, says Mr. Dotterer. Perhaps he was the man who was Klein's son-in-law.

No doubt Mr. Klein owned yet one or more tracts of land which he transferred to his two other sons, John and George, but we have not investigated this matter.

We will now return to the hotel property which we left in the care of David Streib, of Whitemarsh township. But he and his wife, Susan, after owning it four years, sold it to Nicholas Schwenk, of Lower Salford, for £500. Their conveyance bears date December 7th, 1768. It is described in two adjoining tracts; the one containing twenty-three acres and 120 perches, the boundries of which have already been given in the former purchase, and the other, thirty and three-fourth acres, the boundries of which are thus given: Beginning at a white oak tree, a corner of the above tract—this was in a line of the present school house lot and John Moyer's land, at the place of beginning of the former tract—thence by the same southwest seventy-four perches to a stone in a line of Gabriel Klein's land; thence by the same northwest sixty-seven perches to a stone in a line of Christian Moyer's land; thence by the same north-east seventy-four perches to a Spanish oak; thence by same and by land of George Delp south-east sixty-seven perches to the place of beginning.

It will thus be seen that Nicholas Schwenk, a German blacksmith, who twelve years previously had purchased the farm on the other side of the road and now had purchased the

tavern stand also, was fast obtaining possessions. We have already noticed that some years later, in 1792, Mr. Schwenk purchased the lot which is now owned and occupied by Dr. R. K. Keeler.

It will thus be seen that Mr. Schwenk, at one time or other, owned nearly all the land on which Harleysville has been built, that therefore, in our humble opinion, the village should have been called Schwenksville. The upper end of the village is built on land that belonged to the Delp family for nearly one hundred years. As already recited, it was owned by George Delp, then by his son, Isaac, and lastly by John Delp, son of the latter, until about 1855.

THE DICKENSHIEDS.

It seems that Mr. Schwenk, notwithstanding his fondness for *schnaps*, according to tradition had no desire to be an innholder, but let out his tavern to a tenant and sold it again after owning it about a year and a half. In the meantime, however, he sold the upper tract, being it was in two adjoining tracts, to Christian Moyer. It now belongs to John H. Moyer.

He then had his hotel tract carefully surveyed, when it was found to contain thirty-two acres and sixty-seven perches of land, and on May 23d, 1770, conveyed and confirmed it to Frederick Dickenshied, of Lower Salford, innholder, who undoubtedly already occupied the premises, for £400. Since he is called "Innholder of Lower Salford." he consequently must have been here, as we have no knowledge of any other inn in the township at that time, excepting Mathias Stauffer, whose residence was near Mainland, perhaps kept a public house yet at that date. the hotel at Mainland was built by John King about the year 1780, and at first was only small and the accomodations limited.

Frederick Dickenshied owned

the Harleysville hotel from 1770 until he died in March, 1777. He had a license in 1776. He is burried at the Salford Mennonite meeting house. A rude stone with the initials F. D. D. 1777 cut into it marks his grave. His widow's name was Fronica. They had five children, namely, Susan, John, David, Jacob and Elizabeth. Letters of administration were granted to Fronica Dickenshied and John Wentz, a brother-in-law to the deceased, on March 25th, 1777. In some way the administrators worked things around and had the court to confirm this property to his oldest son, John Dickenshied, who held it in his name until 1790. Frederick Dickensheid was a son of Christopher Dickenshied, whose residence was quite near the Salford meeting house, where John Clemmer's now is. He also had five children, namely, Dillman, William, Susanna, wife of John Wentz; Frederick and Valentine. The two last named sons were dead March 12, 1787, at the time their father made his will. His widow's name was Margaret.

Valentine Dickenshied left three children whose names were Susan, Jane and Mary.

Dilman Dickenshied was disobedient to his father and paid the penalty for it by being almost totally disinherited. He received one English shilling for his full share. But his son, Christopher Dickenshied received thirty pounds in money. The remainder of the estate was to be divided into four equal shares.

His will was proven April 28th, 1788, and his witnesses were Henry Schweitzer and Gabriel Shuler. His executors, in his own words, were, "my son-in-law, John Wentz, and my trusty friend, John Shuler."

CHRISTIAN FUNK.

It was during these years which are known as "the time that tried men's souls," that society in this vicinity was considerably

shaken by the surges of the Revolution.

The Mennonites, of whom the inhabitants of this section of the country were principally composed, claimed to be non-resistant, and were looked upon, by the Revolutionary element, as stories, which, indeed, in ignorance, the majority of them were. But as they did not show any signs of hostility to the government nor to the army, there was no trouble in that respect; though they suffered the loss of some of their best horses, some cattle and some grain which the army was greatly in need of, nothing worthy of notice in relation to this matter, aside from this, occurred.

But the different views entertained by the officials of the said church in regard to the "attest," or oath of allegiance, and the payment of revenues demanded by the government, brought matters into collision among themselves. It was principally on this account that Christian Funk, a Mennonite preacher, with a party of adherents were expelled from their communion. He himself says, "how easily we might have gone through this war. But no—the Congress and American government was rejected as rebellious, and the King acknowledged by my fellow ministers, under the idea that Congress would soon be overpowered. The war, however, constantly increased, and mutual abuse between those who were favorable with Congress and those inclined towards the king manifested itself, and discontent was almost universal."

Christian Funk was not an ignorant man, for he was well read and well acquainted with the affairs of the country, and espoused the cause of the American Congress as the most reasonable side of the question; for he knew the causes which brought matters into collision between the British government and the American colonists, and for tak-

ing sides with Congress he was excommunicated.

The residence of Mr Funk was about two miles north of Harleysville, on the Indian creek, at what is now Bechtel's mill. He was a miller by trade, and either he or his father built the first mill there.

He was a son of Henry Funk, a Mennonite bishop, who emi- to America in 1719, and established himself at that place.

The old traditional story, which his son, Christian, inserted into his "Mirror," relating to his father, that when he settled on the Indian creek he had no neighbors nearer than five miles, ~~which~~ is not correct, because there were numerous settlers in Lower Salford before that date.

Henry Funk and Dielman Kolb were appointed by their church to supervise the translation of Van Bracht's "Martyr's Mirror," or "Der Blutige Schauplatz," from Dutch into German, a folio of 1514 pages, printed at Ephrata, in 1748. It was one of the largest works published in this country in the colonial period.

He was well educated for those times, and was the author of several religious works and was a man of extensive influence in his church. He died in 1760.

It appears by reading Christian Funk's "Mirror," that the district of Franconia was long known as Indianfield, while the Lutheran church in the northern part of the township is still called the Indianfield church. Mr. Funk preached at Clemens' which is now Salford, at Bechtel's, in Indian field, now Franconia; in Skippack, in the "Plains," which included Hatfield and Towamencin, and in other places.

He held his membership in Franconia, but he also preached regularly at Clemens', now Salford.

We may therefore well imagine the confusion that then existed among the people in the

immediate vicinity of Harleysville when there were but three houses here, By reading Mr. Funk's own statement about affairs, we are led to the conclusion that he acted too indifferently in those matters preferred against him, and that if he had been a little more shrewd and persevering he might have driven his accusers against the wall.

But it appears that he still had hopes of reconciliation and of being restored to the church of his choice even in his old age yet; but the ban of excommunication had been laid upon him and those in office in the Mennonite church, after many of the former officers were dead, and when Mr. Funk was an old man, still refused to remove it and to restore him.

He and his followers organized themselves into a church at sometime after their excommunication, which was known as the Funkites. His influence extended over a considerable district.

They built a meeting house near Evansburg, Lower Providence township; one on the Skippack, in Towamencin, in 1814, and one about a mile north of Harleysville in 1814 or 1815. Before building these houses they held meetings in there private houses.

Christian Funk died in 1811 in the eightieth year of his age, and perhaps ten years later his church began to decline and gradually faded away like the dew before the morning sun, until about the year 1850, when it became extinct.

These matters have been incorporated into this article to give them more publicity, because very little of it appears to be generally know.

Christian Funk is not buried in Musselman's meadow as Mr. Souder supposes, for he and his wife are buried in Delp's graveyard in Franconia, but possibly his father, Henry Funk, might have been burried on his own farm, part of which is now

owned by Samuel Musselman, as his grave is not known, though there was no occasion for it.

The Mennonite graveyard at the Salford meeting house was opened long before his death, and he was the bishop over this congregation.

Besides that, the graveyard known as Delp's, near the residence of Mr. Funk, was opened long before 1760. There is a stone there dated 1737, and doubtless there are older graves there. The graveyard at the Franconia meeting house must also have been opened before 1760. and Mr. Funk also was bishop over that congregation. So there was no occasion for burying him on his own land if he was buried there.

We will yet add that in 1807 Christian Funk made his last effort to be restored to his mother church, but on account of his own church the ban was not removed. The Mennonites came very near yielding so far as to receive him and his members, but they would not receive his ministers. He afterwards made a statement of his troubles, which he left to posterity. This statement is endorsed by Henry Rosenberger, John Funk, John Reiff, Henry Gottwals, John Whisler, Christian Gottwals, Jacob Whisler, John Gottwals and George Shoemaker.

THE FUNKITES AND HERRITES.

Here we had intended to drop the matter concerning the Funkite church, but since writing the former we have concluded to pursue the subject still further. Though it be considered a deviation from the history of Harleysville, it may, nevertheless, be interesting to some of our readers to know more about that extinct sect.

We have occasionally heard people say Christian Funk must have been wrong in taking the course which he did. No, we answer, his views, in regard to the matter in dispute, were right, but the church did wrong in ex-

communicating him.

From this standpoint we see plainly that people will have their views in political matters and no church should interfere with these views, nor excommunicate any of its members for taking what may seem to be the wrong side. And when a church does wrong the bishops and other officials should not be too proud and stubborn to reconsider the matter and make it right. The Funkite sect was perhaps larger than many people of our time are aware of.

Whether all these men who endorsed Mr. Funk's statement of his troubles were preachers we can not positively say, but they very probably were; since we know of some who were, and of others who were preachers whose names were not mentioned in Mr. Funk's book. They also had more places of worship than most people are aware of. Whether Frick's school house, near Line Lexington, was built by them we can not positively say, but we are informed they worshipped in it, and presume they also built it, as well as the one near Harleysville.

Though this fact is generally contradicted, but facts are stubborn things. It is conceded by old people that the Herrite meeting house above Harleysville was not built by the Herrites, but that it was standing there before John Herr ever preached in this neighborhood.

With these facts before us we have gone to some trouble to ascertain when and by whom it was built. There is perhaps only yet one man living who has any recollection of it, and his idea of the date of 1815 or 1816, when he was a lad of eight or ten summers, may easily be reduced to 1814 or 1815, when we take into consideration the fact that the official under whose supervision the house was built, died in 1815. That man was Henry Landes, a preacher among the Funkites.

and his assistant official, a deacon, was Jacob Moyer, on whose land the house was built.

It may seem strange that the meeting house was not built to the graveyard, where it now stands, in the first place, because that was the burial place of the Funkites, though the graveyard was there long before the excommunication of Christian Funk from the Mennonite church. But a little explanation will clear up this matter why the meeting house was built where it was.

At that time the land on the southeast side of the road around the graveyard belonged to Abraham Delp, and on the other or northwest side of the road, where the meeting house now stands, belonged to Abraham Detweiler, and neither one of them was friendly to the Funkites. This explanation may suffice for the reason why it was built where it was.

Old people in contradicting the above facts say there was a remnant of a defunct sect at that time called "Moyer's folks," who, in their earliest recollections, worshipped in that house.

The reason why they were called "Moyer's folks" probably was because most of them were Moyers by name.

Old Christian Moyer, of Lower Salford, who died in 1859, and his brother, Abraham Moyer, of Franconia, who died in 1866, and several of their sisters, in their younger days belonged to the Funkites. They were perhaps the last members of that extinct sect, and must have joined when they were already waning. The aforementioned Jacob Moyer was their father.

The residence of Henry Landes, the preacher, under whose supervision that meeting house was built, was in the west end of Franconia township on the farm on which the present Landes' smith shop is built. As already stated, he died in 1815, but his wife, Ann, survived him yet nine years. She died in

1824, and the estate was settled in 1825.

We will now turn our attention elsewhere and speak of this Herrite meeting house further on.

There was one Jacob Detweiler, a preacher among the Funkites, whose residence was near Line Lexington, he was an uncle to my father and removed to Canada about the year 1826. It is said that he held meetings in the building recently known as Frick's school house. But whether that house was built under his supervision for that sect we have not had time to investigate, but we opine it was.

Besides Christian Funk there was one John Funk, a bishop or elder of that sect; he is buried in the graveyard near Evansburg. His name we have seen among those who endorsed Christian Funk's book.

John Reiff, who endorsed Mr. Funk's book, also was a preacher, and had a meeting house built on his own land near the Skippack in Towamencin in 1814. He died in 1826. Another preacher who endorsed Mr Funk's book was Henry Gotwals, a resident of Worcester township. He also was an uncle to my father. John Gotwals another endorser was a resident of Skippack, but whether he was a preacher I can not say Whether George Shoemaker, another endorser, whose residence was at "Shoemaker's Corner," below Skippackville, was a preacher I can not say. Whether the other four endorsers* were preachers, or where they resided I can not positively say, but Henry Rosenberger probably was a resident of Hatfield.

As it was not intended in the first place to bring all these matters about the Funkites into this historical sketch, we did not investigate those points which

*Since writing the above I am informed by letter since that it is known that Christian Gotwals and John Wisler, two of those four were preachers, and they probably all were.

we could not answer.

Some people will ask, if Mr. Funk was right in his views why then did his church not succeed? Why did it come to nought? We will answer this question right here. If they had never suffered John Herr to preach for them and divide them they might have existed to this day. But there they made a mistake. John Herr was a heretic, a resident of Lancaster county, where he caused much trouble in the Mennonite church and sifted it completely. He began to preach in this neighborhood about the year 1820, and soon drew much attention, attracting large crowds of people from all denominations for awhile. He advocated a more rigorous discipline in church government than the custom of the Mennonite church was to exercise.

It is a singular thing that when religious fanatics turn traitors they try to make all the disturbance and mischief they can in their mother church, or the one which they leave, under the false intention of reforming it. Reformations may be made by wise men, but not by heretics or austere fanatics.

John Herr incorporated two articles into his creed or rules of discipline which are both unreasonable and impracticable. The one article, that members of his church durst not hear ministers of other denominations preach, is unreasonable and unscriptural. "Prove all things, hold fast that which is good," gives liberty to hear any one preach. The ban afavoidance is impracticable, and in numerous cases, where they tried to enforce it between man and wife, experience taught that human nature is stronger than man-made church rules. The gospel does not sanction the separation of man and wife, but on the contrary, "They twain shall be one flesh," which gives no room for the ban of avoidance. By permitting those things to be

brought among them and to disturb them, the Funkites became disorderly, disputing one with another, some taking sides with J. Herr and others opposing, they were divided among themselves and could not agree; part of them went with the Herrites and part opposing there was no union, and the result of which we now see has been the consequence. But the Herrites in this county will be extinct in a few more decades of years.

This explanation will serve to show how the Herrites came in possession of the Funkites' meeting house above Harleysville. Much more could be said about those things, but enough has been said to teach us a lesson to avoid divisions in whatever church it may be.

Their meeting house in Lower Salford, which stood at the road about forty rods from the line of Franconia township, westward from the toll gate on the Souderton turnpike was built of stone. This building was also used for a school house before the public schools were accepted in 1850. But as the membership of their sect was wanning fast at that time already the community took down their house in 1855, and removed the material over to Delp's graveyard in Franconia where they built it up again for the accommodation of funerals.

THE TAVERN.

As already stated, Frederick Dickensheid died in March, 1777. But whether his widow remained at the hotel, or whether she rented the premises to Andrew Campbell that year yet is not known, but it is certain that in the next year, in 1778, he was there and took out a license for that place, and that he lived there on rent those twelve years that John Dickenshied held it in his name. But on April 10th, 1790, the latter transferred the property to Mr. Campbell, for £500. He was a son-in-law of Nicholas schwenk, and held possession of the place

until 1795, when he and his wife, Mary Magdalena, sold it to Samuel Harley, who owned it forty years. The conveyance from Campbell to Harley bears date June 12, 1795.

In 1790 Mr. Campbell purchased of the descendants and heirs of Dirk Johnson fifteen acres of land, being part of twenty-eight acres, which they had still held as a remnant of 1000 acres, near the Salford meeting house. This tract was also transferred to Mr. Harley at the same time in connection with the hotel premises.

In 1799 Samuel Harley purchased a tract of eight acres and twenty-three perches of land from the descendants of Dirk Johnson, adjoining his other tract near the meeting house. Since these descendants of Dirk Johnson were his great-grandchildren it may not be out of place here to mention their names as follows: Samuel Morris and Rebecca, his wife; Richard Wistar and wife, Benjamin W. Morris and wife, Casper W. Morris and wife, Anthony Morris and wife, Luke W. Morris, Isaac W. Morris and wife, Catharine W. Morris and Israel W. Morris.

On June 10, 1799, Samuel Harley and wife sold four acres of woodland near the meeting house to Nicholas Schwenk, whose residence then was where Dr. Rein K. Keeler's now is. As there was no public road leading across toward the present Lederachville then yet, people went across here by a private road, the greater part of the way through the woods, as shown by an old draught. There was also a private road that came diagonally across, running east and west, intersecting the North Wales road at the tavern, which was travelled principally by people going to and returning from the Salford Mennonite meeting and Alderfer's mill.

When Mr. Schwenk bought those four acres of woodland from Mr. Harley, provision was made

for a road or right of way, lest peradventure the front might be closed up and the former might not be able to get to his woodland. Therefore the latter granted a right of way to pass and repass with a team of four horses, over his land. The place of entrance where the road was to be, was particularly specified as north forty-five degrees west fourteen and one-half perches from a corner of Gabriel Klein's land, just where the public road now is, between the store and tavern; though the store was not there then yet, a long row of sheds belonging to the tavern stood there fronting the road. At the end of the shed was a well which is now in the cellar of the store house where it has been filled up. The barn was upon Mrs. Clemmer's lot and there somewhere the road or right of way led off diagonally across toward the meeting house, as shown by an old drought. It was on this private road also that people went to and returned from meeting until the public road was opened. The sign post stood farther out toward the pike than it now does, and on the sign that swung to and fro screaching in the wind was painted a portrait of William Penn.

NICHOLAS SCHWENK.

As already stated Nicholas Schwenk bought the lot now owned by Dr. Keeler, in 1792. He had then grown old, and retired to take life more easy in his remaining days. He was a blacksmith by trade and had a strong constitution, and if tradition may be trusted, was blind in his old age. He was prominent in the affairs of the township, and nearly if not quite continually held some petty office for over thirty years. Sometimes he was supervisor, at other times he was auditor or something else.

He and his wife, Ann Barbara sold their farm to their son, George Schwenk, for £800, February 1st. 1798.

At that time the Binder farm was bounded by lands of Henry Harley, George Markley, Gabriel Klein, Samuel Harley Nicholas Schwenk and Isaac Delp. George Schwenk, who then owned this farm, kept a public house here, though it never was much of a business place. Numerous incidents which, it is said, occurred there, indicate that it was a place more for frolic than for business. In 1806 he is called an Innholder. How long before that date he kept an inn here is not known. he had for his sign a stag.

When Nicholas Schwenk was now old and well stricken in years he made his last will and testament in writing, dated March 7th, 1806, and died about two years later. His will was proven April 7th, 1808. The witnesses were Michael Shoemaker, Samuel Harley and Isaac Klein. He gave to his wife, Anna Barbara, £10 in gold and silver. He mentioned a number of articles of furniture that he gave to her, among others the clock and the stove, also the lot on which they lived, containing two acres and 120 perches of land, besides the lot of woodland containing four acres and ninety-eight perches, near the Salford meeting house, as also the interest of £400. She was well provided for. He then turned around and made provisions in case his widow should become sickly after his demise, if she was then willing the lot was to be sold, and after that the provisions for her were to be otherwise. After making further bequests to his children and grandchildren he appointed his two sons, George and Jacob, to be his executors, the latter was a resident of Upper Providence, and then he appointed Jacob Reiff trustee over the whole estate to see that justice would be done to his widow and that the provisions of his will would be carried out. He was also to take care of her estate and of her person, and to see

that the grandchildren would get what was coming to them.

In his will he mentions his two sons, George and Jacob; his deceased daughter, Elizabeth, her three daughters Elizabeth, Mary and Barbara; his daughter, Mary Magdalena, wife of Andrew Campbell; his granddaughter, Elizabeth, wife of John Ziegler; Barbara, wife of John Stone, and his grandson, Martin Boger, to whom he bequeathed £5. He mentions Elizabeth, wife of Abraham Markley; Mary, wife of Michael Wagoner, and Barbara, wife of John Ott. These three granddaughters were the daughters of his deceased daughter, Elizabeth, wife of Martin Boger, whose residence was about three-fourths of a mile southwest from Lederachville, where he owned a farm containing seventy-eight acres of land, at present belonging to Abraham L. Ziegler.

Martin Boger's wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Nicholas Schwenk, died June 24th, 1804, aged fifty-three years and eight months. Martin Boger died January 17th, 1806, aged sixty-seven years, seven months and twenty-six days. They both were dead before Nicholas Schwenk made his will.

After Mr. Boger's death his two sons-in-law, Abraham Markley and Michael Wagoner, took out letters of administration and settled his estate.

As already stated, Mr. Boger had an only son, whose name was Martin, to whom his grandfather, Nicholas Schwenk, bequeathed only five pounds, because he had made his father much trouble, and was of such a dissolute character that he became a byword and a laughing-stock among the people.

Barbara Ott died April 8th, 1813, aged twenty-six years, one month and seven days. Elizabeth Markley had twelve children, and died April 5th, 1830, aged fifty years, seven months and twelve days. Her husband, Abraham Markley,

died the year previous, *i. e.*, September 25th, 1829, aged sixty-five years, one month and twenty-four days. (See *Markley Friendshaft*, page 23.) About the time of Mr. Schwenk's death they owned the property at present belonging to Joseph M. Cassel.

Mary Wagoner died November 29, 1864, aged eighty-one years, six months and twenty-five days, but her husband, Michael Wagoner, preceded her June 1, 1860, aged eighty-two years, three months and twenty-two days. It is probable that Elizabeth, wife of John Ziegler and Barbara, wife of John Stone were both daughters of Andrew Campbell. Mrs. Campbell received the interest on £200, but what became of them is not known.

Some time after the death of Mr. Schwenk his two sons, George and Joseph, the executors of his will, by the good will and consent of their mother in writing by her signature, made public sale for her lot and sold it to the highest bidder, which was Daniel Harley, a son of Samuel Harley, and conveyed it to him by a deed April 3rd, 1810. Since it was a matter of importance to have wood he also bought the lot of woodland near the meeting house, which belonged to the lot.

JOHN SELL.

Daniel Harley was a mason by trade. He was married to Catharine Grove, of Bucks county. Some time afterward he transferred his lots to his brother, Joseph Harley, and removed to Warwich township, Bucks county. Joseph was a tailor by trade, he married Sarah Markley, a daughter of Philip Markley, of East Perkiomen, but after owning his lots a few years he sold them to his brother-in-law, John Sell, a carpenter, of Lower Salford, and removed to Pikeland township, Chester county. Their conveyance bears date April 5th, 1821.

John Sell lived there twenty-

four years, and during the time of his sojourn here he bought two adjoining lots, one from Joseph Moyer and wife, containing one acre and fifty-six perches in 1823, and one containing four acres and six perches of John Delp and wife in 1830. He was married to Elizabeth, a daughter of Samuel Harley. He built a large new house there which was replaced by another only a few years ago. He also had a large carpenter shop and other outbuildings, as old people will recollect.

In that shop he, with a number of hands, made much furniture for country use as the custom was in those days. He was also an undertaker and buried the dead; but became heavily encumbered and on December 17th, 1844, made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors to Jonas C. Gehshall and Philip Harley, both of Lower Salford, who sold his personal property and real estate at public sale. The lot where he lived with the two adjoining lots, was sold to Dr. Charles Fronefield, October 18th, 1845. About a year later the doctor's wife died, and on April 1st, 1848, he sold his real estate and practice to Dr. Henry Geiger, who held it until October 2d, 1852, when he sold out to the present owner, Dr. Rein Keeler. During the time that he has been living there many changes have taken place and many improvements have been made.

The office building belonging to Dr. Keeler was built by John Sell during the latter years of his residence there, for an organ house. Eli Wike, at present of Skippack, was one of the men who assisted [illegible] in the manufacture of furniture and he was a musician. He owned a large organ and Sell built the house to hold it.

It did not stand where it now is, but the road bore more to the right in going up, and the organ house stood on the other side of the road somewhere in

front of, or between Samuel H. Cassel's house and Abraham Heckler's.

GABRIEL KLEIN.

We must now go back again to the beginning of this century to say something about our neighbor, Gabriel Klein, whose earthly career came to a close on the 25th of August 1805, when he was seventy-five years and three months old. He was a son of John Isaac Klein, but it was said by his descendants that he was born in Germany, which is not correct. His will was proven September 16, 1805, his witnesses were Joseph Tyson and Samuel Harley. His two sons, Isaac and John Klein, were the executors, and his son, Jacob received the homestead. His widow, Elizabeth Klein, survived him a little over a year or until November 5th, 1806, when she died, aged seventy-five years and five months.

Jacob Klein then owned the farm until the time of his demise which occurred November 17th, 1821, when he was fifty-one years, nine months and twenty-five days old, but his wife, Mary Klein survived him yet eight years. Her maiden name was Cassel. She died July 29, 1828, aged sixty-three years and four days. After the death of Jacob Klein his farm was divided between his two sons, Jacob and Abraham. The latter owned the farm now belonging to Henry C. Delp, where he died January 10th, 1843, aged forty-five years, one month and twenty-two days. Besides the two boys Jacob Klein had daughters, namely, Elizabeth, wife of Ed. Samuel Harley; Catharine, wife of John Harley; Mary, wife of Jacob Shutt, and Sallie, single. Jacob C. Klein, Jr., then owned the homestead until the year 1860, when he sold it to Christian Moyer. Jacob C. Klein died December 17th, 1883, aged eighty-one years, ten months and twenty-two days.

GEORGE SCHWENK.

We will again return to the Binder farm which we left in the care of George Schwenk, containing 154 acres. But as he did not make much money out of his tavern, it appears, he tried to make it out of his land by selling off several small tracts, reducing the farm to ninety-five acres and ninety perches. His son, Henry, was a hatter by trade, and during the time he owned the premises he built a shop at the road, which stood near where Binder's farm house now stands.

In that shop Henry Schwenk carried on the manufacture of hats for quite a number of years. He closed out his hat business about the year 1835.

An old man who is in his eighty-first year, relates that when he was a boy he caught muskrats along the Skippack and sold them to Henry Schwenk, the hatter, and that he received from thirty to forty cents per skin, according to quality. That was about the year 1820.

Those muskrat furs were used in the manufacture of fur hats, which were in general use at that time, and were the kind manufactured by Mr. Schwenk.

After owning this farm nineteen years George Schwenk and his wife, Catharine, on March 21, 1816, sold the same to Baltzer Heydrick, of Lower Salford.

George Schwenk, in his time, also held prominent positions in the affairs of the township, as his father, Nicholas Schwenk, had done, but what become of him and his wife after their farm was sold, or when they died, or where they were buried, is not known.

They had three children, namely, George, who owned a saw mill near the Skippack, in Franconia township; Sarah, wife of Henry Weishe, of Upper Salford, and Henry, the hatter, who for some years in the latter part of his life had his residence

at Abraham Slifer's, in Flourtown, as old people will recollect.

We have searched in all the graveyards and instituted search in others for miles around to find the graves of George Schwenk and his wife and of his father and mother, Nicholas Schwenk and his wife, but have not been able to find them. Their graves have undoubtedly been sadly neglected.

Nicholas Schwenk was a resident of this place over fifty years, but whose son he was, where he came from, where he was born and where he and his wife are buried has not been ascertained. But they are probably buried at the Goschenhoppen church in Upper Salford and have no regular tombstones.

BALTZER HEYDRICK

Was a bachelor, and was a carpenter by trade. He owned the premises nineteen years also. But for a single man to run a large farm and an inn does not go well. Consequently he had many trials, many disappointments and vexations. Sometimes he had renters living there; at other times he tried to run the whole machine himself by hiring help, but he was not very successful.

Mrs. Adam Fisher, Sr., his niece, who was then only a girl yet in her teens, kept house for him a number of years. It was during the time that he owned this property, and perhaps already during the time that George Schwenk kept a public house here, that militia musters and battalions were kept here, as it was required by law at that time.

One of his renters was Abraham Slifer, who afterward removed to Flourtown where he carried on the hotel business very successfully for many years.

Baltzer Heydrick did not reduce the farm by selling off lots, but kept it whole as he received it; but as he was old, to relieve himself, he sold the property to

William Reiff, for $4333.33, on April 4th, 1835. Mr. Reiff then turned the hatter shop into a dwelling and took in Peter Gedshall as a tenant and day laborer. As there was no cellar under the shop, there was a cave built near the door of the dwelling, which many of us remember.

When Mr. Reiff came there he cut down the sign post which made an end to the tavern. He was a son of Benjamin Reiff, Esq., of Lower Salford, and was married to Salome Stem. They had no children. In later years they removed to Skippackville, where he died on May 27th, 1871, aged sixty-seven years, eight months and six days. But his wife, Salome, survived him yet three years, when she died May 19th, 1874, aged sixty-three years, six months and twenty-three days. After Mr. Reiff had owned the said farm six years he and his wife sold it to John Freed, April 1st. 1841.

Mr. Freed owned this farm twenty-three years or until 1864 when he sold it to the present owner, John Binder.

During the time it belonged to Mr. Freed several lots were sold off. which reduced it to eighty acres. Soon after he became the owner thereof the tenant house was again turned into a shop, in which Mr. E. K. Freed, now of North Wales, with several hands, carried on the shoemaking business quite successfully for some time, In later years it was again occupied as a dwelling, but was taken down in 1865 when the present farm house was built.

It was about the year 1846 that Abraham Freed, who then occupied a part of the house of his brother, John Freed, opened a lumber yard where he kept an assortment of boards and scantlings for building and other purposes, on those lots which are now owned by Dr. V. Z. Keelor and Mrs. Delp. He built an office there bordering on the turn-

pike, on the ground that is now in the road to the creamery. But this lumber yard was abandoned when the North Penn. railroad was built. Several years after opening this lumber yard Abraham Freed built the house which is now owned and occupied by Henry Shisler, and died there June 11, 1862, in the fifty-seventh year of his age. He was the father of A. G. Freed, of Lansdale, and of I. G. Freed, of North Wales. His wife, Mary, *nee* Godshall, died February 11, 1844, in the thirty-seventh year of her age. John Freed, Abraham's brother, died September 28, 1881, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years, eleven months and seven days. But his wife Catharine preceeded him February 16th, 1879, aged eighty-one years and thirteen days.

SAMUEL HARLEY.

We must now turn back to the old hotel. It has been stated that Samuel Harley purchased this property in 1795. He then attended to the hotel business in connection with a small store and with a large family run a farm of thirty-two acres for forty years, or until he sold the premises to his son, Abraham, and his daughter, Catharine, in 1835. In 1823 his wife died, but he survived her yet sixteen years. She was in meeting at Indian creek where she had an attack of paralysis, and died before she was brought home. She was a daughter of Christopher Sauer, of Germantown, and died on July 17, 1823, aged sixty-two years, five months and twenty-two days. He died on March 24, 1839, aged eighty-one years and eighteen days.

They both belonged to the German Baptist or Dunkard church. Although they kept a hotel, it is alleged that no one ever got drunk there in those forty years, nor did he ever tolerate any nuisance.

Samuel Harley was a son of Randolph Harley, whose residence was where Enos Wam-

bold's now is. His mother was Mary, a daughter of Peter Becker, the first Dunkard preacher in America. Rudolph Harley and his wife had thirteen children, whose names were John, Joanna, Lena, Mary, Rudolph, Elizabeth, Jacob, Henry, Sarah, Samuel, Joseph, Mary Margaret and Abraham. On May 3, 1784, Rudolph Harley and his wife, Mary, conveyed to their son, Samuel, two tracts of land, being partly in Lower Salford and partly in Franconia townships, the one tract containing sixty-three acres and 123 perches and the other ten acres. He then built a house thereon, where Abraham Kratz now lives. This was then his residence until 1795, though he did not sell it before December 31, 1799

When Samuel Harley and his family moved here they had seven children, and five were born here, but one was still-born and another whose name was Hannah died in infancy. The oldest was Daniel, born March 5, 1787, who married Catharine Grove. The second was Samuel, born July 15, 1788, who married Ann Detweiler. The third was Mary, born September 24, 1789, who married Yellis Cassel December 22, 1803, and died October 6, 1860. The fourth was Sarah, born May 14, 1791, who married Samuel Johnson December 16, 1821, and died November 1, 1869. The fifth was John, born July 28, 1792, who married Catharine Klein December 31, 1814, and died June 27, 1872. The sixth was Catharine, born September 22, 1793. She remained single and died September 13, 1847. The seventh was Joseph, born February 1, 1795, who married Sarah Markley, and died December 20, 1837. The eighth was Elizabeth, born November 2, 1797, who married John Sell. She died October 14, 1862. The ninth was Hannah, who died young. The tenth was a son, still-born. The eleventh was Jacob, born September —.

1801. He married Sarah Price and died August 1, 1882. The twelfth and last was Abraham, born January 1, 1803. He was a bachelor and died May 8, 1852.

It was during the time that Samuel Harley lived here that the road to Lederachville was laid out and opened, but in what year we can not say. The road below Harleysville leading over toward Souderton, from the North Wales road to the Allentown road was laid out in 1832. But the road above Harleysville leading from Franconia Square to Alderfer's (now Groff's) mill, was opened much earlier, and apparently was the first cross-road in the township.

Samuel Harley's two sons, Samuel and Jacob, were tailors by trade and worked in a room on the second story of the tavern where they carried on the business of tailoring for a number of years.

During that time a man named Stevens carried on the business of stocking weaving in an old log house which stood where the present warehouse belonging to the store now stands. How long Mr. Stevens wove stockings in that old house is not known. His loom or machine was worked by treadles. A few of the oldest inhabitants remember something of it yet, and as they relate it to the present generation they seem surprised that the manufacture of stockings was carried on in Lower Salford at that time already, aside of those that were knit by hand. It is not generally known that stocking weaving was nothing new in this township at that period, for at least seventy-five years before stocking weaving was carried on in Lower Salford.

On January 19th, 1748, Nicholas Rary, a stocking weaver, from Germantown came up here and purchased of John Johnson and Mary, his wife, seven and one quarter acres of land, on which he built the

same house in which Adam Fisher now lives, where he wove stockings a long time, and died there in 1775, leaving a widow, whose name was Mary, and two sons named Henry and John.

Whether he wove stockings in the house or whether he built that old shop which stands there is not known. The house at first was only one story high, and was built of planks and weatherboarded. In the beginning of this century the second story was built on it and other improvements were made. It is the oldest house in the township.

What afterward became of his stocking loom is not known, but it is probable that it was the same old loom which Mr. Stevens had in use in Harley's shop. Some time after stocking weaving in that old shop was abandoned, it was occupied by old "Betty" Dehaven, though she did not die there.

This brings us down to the time of Dr. Charles Fronefield, who located himself here in 1829, and was quite successful in obtaining a large practice. He was a strong anti-slavery man who sheltered and assisted the poor Virginia fugitives who came here by the "underground railroad."

A fugitive by the name of "Jim" Thaunton found refuge here several years. He was employed on the farm and attended the Doctor's horses. During the time that he was here he sought himself a dusky mate, and they then lived in the old shop yet two or three years. But when the slavery question grew so hot that the fugitive slavelaw was passed, it was considered unsafe for him to remain here any longer. He consequently took his wife and child and the things which he had on a wagon drawn by one horse, and emigrated to Canada. "Jim" was a kind darkey and received kindness in return from the neighbors who gave him some

assistance on his journey.

THE STORE.

It was perhaps about the year 1830, when Samuel Harley's wife was dead and he was old that he transferred the store to his son, Jacob Harley. It was only a small affair kept in a side room of the tavern, and was by no means an assortment of merchandise as are in the stores of the present day. But Jacob S. Harley did not continue in the store business many years before he wanted more room and more goods to sell. A few years later he sold his store to his brother, Abraham, and going over to Franconia Square he opened a store there. At the same time he took in his nephew, Samuel H. Cassel, for his clerk.

Soon after Abraham Harley and his sister, Catharine, had purchased their father's premises Abraham built a store house where Manass Clemens' house now stands, and Jonas C. Godshall took the store into that new building about the year 1836. But after keeping the store about three years he sold out to Daniel Moyer. About the year 1841 Mr. Moyer sold out to Jacob S. Harley and Samuel H. Cassel, but in 1842 Mr. Harley sold out his share to Mr. Cassel. The former then went down to Franconiaville, in the "Seven Hundred" as it was then called, and opened a store there. By this time Dr. Fronefield owned the property and in 1843 Mr. Cassel purchased the store stand with five acres and forty-eight perches of land from the Doctor, for $1500.

After owning the store about a year he, with the assistance of Dr. Fronefield and others, got the post office, and Mr. Cassel was appointed postmaster, which office he held fourteen years, or until April, 1858. In 1848 he built the store house at the corner and in 1850 took in Jesse Y. Heckler as his clerk. His former clerk was George Miller.

Early in the spring of 1851

Jonas D. Moyer, now of Dublin, Bucks county, was taken in as partner, and the firm took the name of Moyer & Cassel, which was continued three years, and in January, 1854, Jesse Y. Heckler was admitted as a third partner. The capital invested at that time was $6600. That firm continued eight years, or until 1858, when Jonas D. Moyer purchased the store at Line Lexington, and Samuel H. Cassel retired. William R. Tyson purchased the store property and the firm took the name of Heckler & Tyson. Mr. Tyson was then appointed postmaster. Benjamin K. Johnson, now Dr. B. K. Johnson, of Norristown, was admitted as clerk. They also took in Jonas M. Kulp as clerk, and when Mr. Johson went to study medicine they took in Simeon P. Moyer as clerk. This firm continued three years, or until 1861, when Mr. Heckler went into the tobacco business, and Mr. Tyson continued in the store business three years longer.

Mr. Cassel after retiring could not be idle, and then commenced a flour and feed store, which he continued until 1861, when he commenced the hardware store by separating it from Mr. Tyson's store, by mutual agreement, as it was more than Mr. Tyson and his men could well attend to. It was the same store that is now owned by Moyer & Gehman. In March 1864 Tyson sold his stock and premises to Simeon P. Moyer and his brother, William, and the firm took the name of Moyer & Bro. They then took in Jonas M. Cassel as clerk, and as William P. Moyer was a horse dealer he did not interest himself much in the store and after some time Daniel P. Moyer was taken in as clerk. In the course of about four years Moyer & Bro. transferred the store and premises to Daniel P. Moyer.

About this time Jermiah Shelly was one of the clerks, and later on Henry P. Moyer

was also admitted as clerk, but in 1872 Mr. Moyer made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors to Solomon Snyder. After the store was sold out the property was purchased by Enos L. Rosenberger, who took possession in the fall of 1872, though his deed was not granted until March, 1873. Mr. Rosenberger took in Henry P. Moyer as clerk, who continued there several years when he withdrew and in company with Daniel Gehman bought the hardware store from Samuel H. Cassel. Mr. Rosenberger afterward took in John W. Clemmer as clerk.

Some time in 1879 A. K. Ziegler opened a small store in what is now Quinque's dwelling, but in 1880 he purchased the store of Mr. Rosenberger, and owned it until 1885, when he transferred it to Jacob M. Price, the present owner.

Mr. Ziegler took in Ambrose Raudenbush and John M. Clemmer as his clerks, and when Mr. Raudenbush withdrew Richard Keelor was admitted. When the store was transferred to Mr. Price, the clerks, Clemmer and Keelor, were also transferred or continued in the store where they still are at this time.

It will thus be seen that many changes have been made at the store, and that the owners did not all get rich there. It may well be said that Samuel H. Cassel was the most successful man that was there in making a fortune. He was an active and enterprising business man and persevering in his purposes. The village owes much to him for its former prosperity and improvements.

DOCTOR FRONEFIELD.

Five years after Abraham Harley and his sister, Catharine, had purchased their father's premises, and one year after his death, on March 31, 1840, they sold about twenty-five acres of their land to Dr. Fronefield. It was all that tract which was separated from the hotel by the road

leading to Lederachvlle. The remainder of it was about seven acres, and is the same, including those lots which have been sold off, that still belongs to the hotel.

In 1837 Dr. Fronefield married Rosalinda Richards, who was hired at the tavern to assist Catharine Harley. After he had purchased the land he hired hands to farm it for him, but still had his residence at the hotel, and made use of the old buildings that were there. He lived here until 1845 when he purchased the lot where Dr. Keeler now lives. It was during the time that he had land to farm that "Jim" Thaunton was there, and about the time that he had purchased the land or soon after that an incident occurred there which I will relate. The doctor was a jolly fellow and was fond of a joke. Things were quite different there then from what they are now. The hog stable and hen house stood near an old pear tree that is still standing near the barn, and the barn was over on Mrs. Clemmer's lot.

It was about the year 1841 when the farmers in this vicinity were much annoyed and vexed by a gang of chicken thieves. At a public sale in the neighborhood where one of the suspected thieves was, a number of farmers and others were quite loud in their insinuations, imprecations and denunciations against the thief. Dr. Fronefield, who was a shrewd man, was also in the crowd; but he knew that those farmers did not know how to catch a rat, and he facetiously tantalized them for being so stingy with their chickens when some poor man had taken only a few. He would not do so and so if he would lose a few chickens. Poor people were fond of chickens, and he would not hurt a poor man for taking a few. But the doctor was cunning, and he knew that his words would take better than the threats of the farmers and therefore prepared for it.

That evening he got his gun ready and stood it to his bed; then he opened the window toward the hen house high enough to have a fair aim, and then went to bed. Some time in the night he heard a disturbance among his chickens. He went to the window with his gun, and watching for an opportunity he saw the thief come out of the hen house with a few chickens, and when the thief had turned his back toward him he discharged the contents of his gun into the rear of the depredator who dropped his chickens and disappeared. Up at Harley's corner there stood a small yellow house which, for certain reasons, bore the appellation of the "Yellow Tavern." A man who vulgarly was known as "Hevel Devil" had his residence there at that time, and the next day after the aforesaid adventure he sent his wife to the doctor for some salve for her husband, who, as she said, was sorely beset with boils. The doctor knew what was the matter and therefore prepared her some ointment which he knew would not be the last of it. The next day she came again wanting something else, but he told her he had given her the best he had, and if that would not do he would have to see the patient. She, however, told him not to come unless he was sent for. But it was not long until they sent for him, and when he saw the wounds he put on a long face and wondered how such a thing had occured, but he was told to take out the shot for it was his fault that they were there. That was fun for the doctor, and in conversation afterward with his friends he often chuckled over the event.

Dr. Froncfield was the first physician who established himself at this place, where he resided about nineteen years. But some time after the death of his wife, which occurred October 27th, 1846, he sold out

his practice and property to Dr. Henry Geiger. Their conveyance bears date April 1, 1848. During the time of Dr. Fronefield's residence here the following doctors studied medicine under his instructions, namely: Drs. Heist, Isett, Lambert, Poley, Rile, Hough, Smith, Spare, Slonaker, Geiger, Heckel, Moyer, Royer and Scholl; fourteen in number.

After selling out in 1848 Dr. Fronefield removed to Philadelphia where he, in partnership with Dr. Breinig, went into the drug business. Much could be said of his kindness and generosity as a man and of his success as a physician, but we will not weary our readers with a long encomium. He was a frequent contributor to the Norristown *Herald and Free Press*, of both prose and poetry, and his contributions were generally well received. He died in Philadelphia August 6, 1865, in the fifty-seventh year of his age.

During the time of Dr. Geiger's residence here the following doctors studied medicine under his instructions, namely: Drs. Boorse, Beaver, R. K. Keeler, H. G. Groff, Swenk and Hottenstein. But after about four years he sold out his property and practice to Dr. R. K. Keeler, who then took in Dr. H. G. Groff as his partner, and Dr. Geiger removed to Philadelphia.

Drs. Keeler & Groff commenced their practice here in 1852 and have been here since then, now thirty-four years. they have been quite successful, have had a very extensive practice and a good reputation. They frequently have calls to meet other doctors at a distance for consultation in critical cases. During these thirty-four years the following doctors studied under their instructions, namely: Drs. Kurtz, Shade, Steerly, Grim, Johnson, Cassel, Tyson, J. G. Groff, S. R. Keeler, R. S. Keeler, V. Z. Keelor, Todd, Berndt, Roulenbush, Gerhart,

Hartzell, H. R. Loux, Wile, Miller and J. C. Groff. Of these it is known that Lambert, Moyer, Poley, Geiger, Boorse, Beaver, Swenk, Groff and Wile are dead. The last named died before his course of study was finished.

It will thus be seen that during these fifty-eight years forty doctors have studied medicine in this village, and some of these also have become noted physicians.

In March 1877 the practice of Drs. Keeler & Groff was so extensive that they found it necessary to call to their assistance Dr. H. R. Hartzel, who then assisted them four years, when in 1881 they associated in their practice Dr. V. Z. Keeler, who now has much of the burden to bear, and as the older physicians retire, will have still more of the weight upon his shoulders.

Harleysville is well supplied with doctors. Dr. J. R. Keeler, who is a graduated veterinary physician and surgeon from Ontario Veterinary College, Toronto, Canada, also has an extensive practice.

THE OLD TAVERN

Was a large two-story stone house, built after the old style, with a fire-place in the kitchen, and was built by John Isaac Klein somewhere about the year 1750. The sign post stood out from the end of the house near the great road, and the sheds, a long row of them, stood over on the other corner where the store now is. When Dr. Fronefield had purchased the greater part of the land in 1840 he rented the house and the remainder of the land from Abraham and Catharine Harley, though they both remained in the family. As the doctor did not approve of selling *schnaps* he did not take out a license for that purpose, and consequently there was no license held at this place for about ten years, and no liquor was sold. When Dr. Fronefield moved over on the

lot now owned by Dr. Keeler, Catharine Harley, who was so much attached to the doctor's wife, moved along with them and remained in the family until Fronefield moved to Philadelphia. On April 1, 1847, Abraham Harley, who then owned the old house and lot containing seven acres of land, alone, sold the same to John Williams, who was a brother-in-law to Dr. Fronefield, but one year later, April 8, 1848, John Williams and Rebecca, his wife, sold the said premises to James Price, for $1600.

Mr. Price, who was then a single man, took down the old house and built a new one on the same site. Though at first it was only two stories high, but several years later he built a third story on it, as it now is. He also made other changes and improvements by building the sheds over where they now are, that the place was greatly changed and improved and for all that had a much better appearance.

When the new hotel was finished Cornelius Bergey moved into it, and next spring—in 1849, a license was obtained. But then Mr. Price, who was awake to his own interest, that same year sought himself a wife and occupied his hotel himself the year following. He owned the premises fifteen years and did much business. He was an active, enterprising business man, and, during the time he was here, opened a flour and feed store on the second story of one of the sheds. During the time he was here a number of other buildings were put up, and the place took the appearance of a village. On April 6, 1863, he and his wife Magdalena, conveyed this property, along with two other small tracts of land, to Jacob C. Klein, for $7500.

Mr. Klein and his son, Jacob, did a considerable business here by keeping a flour and feed store besides the hotel. Seven

years they owned the property and in that while added yet several more small tracts of land to it, embracing in all eighteen acres or more. On March 29th, 1870, Jacob C. Klein and his wife, Elizabeth, transferred the hotel and six tracts of land to their son Jacob W. Klein, for $10,000. The latter and his wife immediately conveyed the hotel and three tracts of land to George Swartz, for $8000.

It was about this time that Jacob C. Clemens took the flour and feed store on himself and built the feed house that now contains it. After owning this property three years Mr. Swartz and his wife, Annie, sold the same, embracing ten acres and sixty-seven perches of land, to Frederick Hodum, of the city of Philadelphia, for $11,700. Mr. Hodum owned the property nine years, though he himself did not occupy it over six years. The remainder of the time it was occupied by Frank Snyder. On March 24, 1882, Mr. Hodum and his wife, Mary, conveyed the premises to John J. Troxel, for $11,500. The latter owned it two years when he and his wife, Annie, sold the same to William B. Steinmetz, of Sumneytown, for $13,000, on April 3, 1884. Mr. Steinmetz and wife then sold the same to A. K. Ziegler, the present owner, January 1, 1885, for the same sum.

SEVERAL HOUSES.

Where Daniel Clemmer's shoe store is formerly stood a weather boarded framed dwelling, as many of us recollect. Part of that house was built by Abraham Harley for a wheelwright shop about the year 1842, and Valentine Anderson carried on the business of wheelwrighting in it, and had his home in the family of Samuel H. Cassel, but after a year or two his sister, Catharine, the first wife of Mr. Cassel, died, and he closed up his wheelwrighting at that place when the shop stood empty a year or two. But then Dr.

Fronefield turned it into a dwelling and S. H. Cassel built a blacksmith shop on the other side just opposite. That new dwelling then became the residence of the blacksmith. But when Dr. Fronefield sold his other property to Dr Geiger he sold that property also, but separately, and Gabriel Klein, of Franconia, was the purchaser. Dr. Fronefield also built a stable on the lot and the blacksmith kept a cow. But as there was scarcely room enough on the lot for a small garden and a stable, he built it out hard against the public road. This stable then was an eye-sore to the people of the village, as they saw other new buildings arise and improvements being made along the front on both sides of the road, and yet the old stable stood there until about the year 1864, when the villagers arose one morning they saw the old stable lying prostrate on the ground in an irreparable condition. On investigation it appeared that Judge Lynch had visited the village during the night and had served an execution against it. Soon after Gabriel Klein became the owner of the lot he built an addition to the house and it was then occupied by two small families. But after his death in 1866 it was purchased by Mary Moyer, but eight years later, after her demise, it was purchased by William R. Tyson, in 1874. He made preparations to build a new house there the next spring, but before the time for building came, in March 1875, he died. The lot was then sold again, and John H. Moyer, Mr. Tyson's son-in-law, bought it and built that house in 1875.

It is not my design to give a sketch of each house in Harleysville, but because the former has a history I have done so, and the one following I will give very briefly. In March, 1847, Abraham H. Cassel purchased of Dr. Fronefield the lot which now belongs to Mrs. Clemmer,

on which, at that time, stood a wagon house and large corn crib. Mr. Cassel dug a cellar there and when it was walled out he put the frame of the wagon house over the cellar and turned it into a dwelling. This was then the fifth house in Harleysville. A year later, April 1, 1848, he and his wife, Elizabeth, sold their lot to Joseph Moyer. Still a year later, April 2, 1849, Mr Moyer and his wife, Sarah, sold the same lot containing three acres of land to John Williams, for $700. Mr. Williams and his wife, after owning it a short time, sold it to Cornelius Bergey, who built an addition to the house. He and his wife, after residing there several years, transferred it to Joseph Freed, of Franconia, who soon afterward sold it to Tobias Clemmer. On July 13. 1876, their barn was struck by lightning and burnt away. At the same time Mathias Price's barn, at Indian creek also burnt away from the electric element, and the same year Mr. Clemmer built the brick house which is now owned and occupied by his widow. The barn was also rebuilt the same summer.

THE POST OFFICE.

When the post office was opened in Harleysville and for some time thereafter the mail accommodations were very poor and the mail matter was scarce. Before this office was opened the Ettingers, who resided at what is now Mechanicsville, in Upper Salford, had a contract to carry the mail from Sumneytown by way of Schwenksville to Trappe and back again to Sumneytown every Wednesday and on Thursday they carried it over to George Bilger's whose residence was near the Indian Creek church, in Franconia township and back again to Sumneytown. And when the Harleysville post office was opened in the beginning of the year 1844, the mail bag was brought here after it had been at Bilger's. But about this time or soon after there was

a post office obtained in Tylersport, and the one at Bilger's was removed to Franconia Square.

A friend writes that in 1850 they had only two mail visits in Harleysville per week. The one route has already been described as the one from Sumneytown to Tylersport, Franconia Square and Harleysville to Sumneytown every Thursday of each week. The other route was merely an accommodation of Mr. Leob, of Doylestown, who, at that time, had a large circulation of his *Morgenstern* through this district. He had a contract to carry the mail from Doylestown by way of Kulpsville and Skippackville to Trappe and back again. He paid his mail carrier extra to go from Kulpsville by way of Harleysville to Skippackville every week to accommodate his subscribers in this neighborhood with his paper and other mail matter.

The mails at that time were carried by boys on horseback. But a few years later, in 1852 or 1853, the route was changed and Ettingers received a new contract.

This route commenced at Sumneytown by way of Tylersport, Franconia, Harleysville, Schwenksville and Trappe every Wednesday and return by the same route on Thursday. This route continued in this way until 1856 or later, when the route was changed going from Sumneytown to Gwynedd and back again, at first twice a week, if I mistake not, for several years, until we obtained a daily mail from Harleysville to North Wales and back, until about 1876 when it was changed to start at North Wales going to Harleysville and back every day. This up and down route was carried by the stage about fourteen years.

We will now have something to say about

STAGES AND STAGE LINES.

The stages in those days were a great accommodation to travelers and a paying business to

their owners. They mostly bought cheap horses, such as had been spoiled and put them into the stage team; going there a few months made them tame enough, and therefore the expense was not so great as if better horses had been used. Before the North Penn railroad was built this country was full of stage routes, and two routes run through Harleysville.

Samuel Hartranft, of Norristown, father of ex-governor Hartranft, owned two lines, one from Norristown by way of Centre Square, Skippackville, Lederachville and Sumneytown to Allentown; the other from Norristown by way of Perkiomen Bridge, now Collegeville, up the Perkiomen through Schwenksville, Zieglersville, Greenlane, Pennsburg and Hereford to Fogelsville, in Lehigh county. Both these lines carried the mail.

They started at Fogelsville and Allentown soon after midnight and came down to Norristown on Monday about eleven o'clock a. m., and returned the next day.

Both these lines were made to accommodate each other between Sumneytown and Greenlane by an express wagon which carried the mail and passengers between the two places. Both went the same way on the same day and returned the next day. There was another line which was run only with two horses owned by Samuel Hartranft and Michael Boyer, of Norristown. This line commenced in Steinsburg, Lower Milford township, Bucks county, by way of Tylersport, Franconia Square, Harleysville and Lederachville, where it connected with the other line going to Norristown, but this line did not carry any mail. And this stage had only two horses and was discontinued soon after the North Penn railroad was built. But we will now describe the main line running through Harleysville for a period of over twenty years. The

first stage which run up and down the turnpike through Harleysville was owned by William Price, of Montgomery Square. It was a two-horse stage and commenced running October 1, 1851, three years after the turnpike was completed. It started in Sumneytown in the morning and run down to Acuff's tavern, on the State road, where it connected with a line running from Doylestown to Norristown, and returned in the evening. This line continued in the hands of the same proprietor until April 1, 1856, when it came into the hands of James Fitzgerald, who owned it until March 7, 1859. It was during the time that he was proprietor that the mail route was changed, going from Sumneytown to Gwynedd, and the stage carried the mail. But the two-horse stage in the meantime had developed into a four-horse stage. But Mr. Fitzgerald then sold out to Jacob O. Bergey, who then owned the line until April 17, 1860, a little over a year, when he sold out to Moyer & Hartzel, of Branchville.

This firm or company owned the line over ten years, or from April 17, 1860, to December 20, 1870. Soon after the railroad was finished the stage route from Allentown to Norristown was discontinued, and the one from Fogelsville to Norristown also, for about that time the railroad from reading to Allentown was built. But the stage route from North Wales to Sumneytown was extended up to Treichlersville, in Berks county. I presume the line from Allentown to Norristown was discontinued about the beginning of the year 1858, and I know that this date is nearly correct.

Moyer & Hartzell had a large omnibus on the road with a seating capacity of twenty-eight passengers which was drawn by five horses, two at the tongue and three abreast in front, when the stage was literally packed

full of passengers inside and on the top. The coach was a ponderous car superbly painted and mounted on heavy wheels. On a calm frosty morning, or when the wind was from the northwest, the stage could be heard coming, thundering along when it was yet a mile off.

"Like some fierce giant coming from afar
On bickering wheels and adamantine car."

But as soon as the Perkiomen railroad was built and the cars run up as far as Greenlane or Pennsburg the stage business was spoiled. Then it seemed as if the Titans were aroused from slumber, and came forth to put the giant Steam into harnes to

"Urge the ponderous wheel
With a fiery whirling force,
Like the torment of Ixion,
With the smoke and clang of Vulcan
And the fire-breathing [illegible]."

There is no way of traveling, either ancient or modern, that will compare to a locomotive or a string of cars on a railroad.

The fabled coaches of the gods of Mythology were only imaginary. The chariot of Mars in which he went forth to battle was only a myth. The car of Aurora drawn by four horses abreast on which she went forth every morning heralding the the dawn, was not a reality. But at this advanced age of civilization, in this nineteenth century, a train of cars carrying several hundred passengers at the rate of thirty miles an hour is a reality than can not be denied. The ancients traveled on horses, on camels and on dromedaries, and conveyed their merchandise on the backs of those animals and were satisfied. But now we have the iron horse to go snorting and thundering along as far in one hour as they went in a day. They built immense temples for the worship of their Gods. "Pillared piles and the eternal pyramids," but to chisel a hole through a mountain to drive through with their chariots they never dreamed of. So much are we ahead of the ancients.

Kings and princes, generals and great men then had chariots,

some were made of iron and some of wood, gorgeously decorated and ornamented with mountings of gold and silver, but they were heavy, clumsy things, which were drawn by horses, and were little better than our modern carts without springs to jolt one around. They were used more in war than for traveling purposes.

When it became known that Moyer & Hartzell would discontinue their stage the people all along the line were very reluctant to relinquish this convenient mode of travel. The people all had become so accustomed to it in those twenty years that they considered it a necessity to have a stage on the pike. Then a number of citizens, business men and men with capital formed a stock company and elected managers, who run a stage from Branchville to North wales and back daily, from December 20, 1870, to February 12, 1872, a little over a year, when the undertaken project of running a stage was abandoned with considerable loss. As this line was a company affair it was called "The Peoples' line." From that day on for some time Jacob Rorer, of North Wales, carried the mail back and forth between the two places in an old fish wagon. But after a while the old fish wagon was exchanged for a more convenient carriage. It has been carried in some kind of a vehicle ever since.

The general mode of travel has changed wonderfully in the last fifty years. A half century ago there were very few light carriages to be seen. Elliptic springs were not in use, but a few one-horse wagons, covered with homespun linen or white muslin, owned by small farmers, were occasionally seen. Some of the wealthier families had gigs covered with leather in which they went out, but the general mode of travel at that time was on horseback. For conveying produce and merchan-

dise heavy teams were used. In the forepart of the week long strings of teams with covers projecting in front and rear, driven by four or six horses from Maxatawny, Macungy, Butterthal, Hosensack and other places could be seen going down the road here to Philadelphia and returning in the latter end of the week, when Harleysville was yet in its infancy. In those days immense quantities of powder were manufactured along the Swamp creek, which was conveyed on heavy teams over this road to Philadelphia. But by this time about the last powder mill has been blown up. Besides, in those days, there were many oil mills along the Perkiomen and her branches, which produced large quantities of linseed oil and nut oil, which was conveyed to market in barrels on heavy teams over this road. But now no flax is raised and no oil is made there. Everything has changed wonderfully in this while. Then telegraphs and telephones were unknown and railroads were only beginning to be built.

HARLEYSVILLE

Has always been an active business place, owing much to the large store business which was brought here by Mr. Cassel, to its extensive practice of its physicians, which was established by Dr. Fronefield, and to the manufacture of clothing for the Philadelphia markets which was commenced by John Binder. The population in 1880 was 226 and the village now contains forty-five dwelling houses besides a school house, a large creamery building, a flour and feed store, several warehouses and numerous shops, a large hall, sheds, barns and stables.

The creamery is a large building two stories high above the basement with an ice house near by with conveniencies for storing away ice. It was built by a joint stock company in 1881, and was sold to Lyman Rosenberger, who was one of

stockholders, for $5000, in 1884. It is now owned and operated very successfully by Mr. Rosenberger. The daily receipts of milk are generally about 10,000 pounds. On the upper story the manufacture of stockings is carried on by Clemens & Rosenberger. The general store of the village is run by J. M. Price and the hardware store by Moyer & Gehman. The flour and feed store belongs to Manass Clemens, the shoe store to Daniel Clemmer and the stoves and tinware to H. D. Wolford. The hotel is run by "mine host," A. K. Ziegler, the bakery by Ambrose Raudenbush, while Rev. Henry S. Bower sells clocks, watches and jewelry. Ephraim Cassel is the undertaker, who buries the dead for many miles around. J. B. Binder and H. B. Shisler, with their hands at work, build and repair carriages, while Reuben Cressman, the blacksmith, with his men at work does the ironing and horse shoeing.

Sewing machines are sold and repaired by A. Quinque, while S. E. Berlin makes gentlemen's clothing for his customers. Two extensive clothing manufactories, one by John Egolf and the other by Hauck & Atkinson, successor to S. B. Binder, produce an immense amount of clothing for the Philadelphia markets.

In 1883 Mr. Binder estimated that he alone manufactured eight thousand four hundred garments every week, or four hundred and thirty-six thousand and eight hundred in a year, weighing over two hundred and ninety-one tons. What Mr. Egolf's estimate of his business was we did not hear, but we would perhaps be safe in estimating that the aggregate of all the clothing manufactured by these two establishments amounts upwards of seven hundred thousand garments annually, and that the weight thereof is five hundred tons.

Harleysville is pleasantly sit-

uated on the Springhouse and Sumneytown turnpike, in the northern portion of the township of Lower Salford. The houses are handsomely built of bricks, stones and frame. It is surrounded by a well-improved farming district in which the farmers are generally prosperous and happy. Their farms are mostly well cultivated and are divided into convenient fields and romantic meadows. The surface is generally rolling, and the soil is red shale mixed with clay. In the immediate vicinity of the village the land is mostly drained by a tributary of the Indian creek. Though the Perkiomen water shed extends through the highest part of the village and the lower end is drained by a tributary of the Skippack; the lower end is the highest and the upper end is the lowest. It is located about midway between the North Pennsylvania and the Perkiomen railroads, being about five miles from either of them. The nearest station and the one at which the business for the village is done is Souderton. In 1869 the Delaware River and Lancaster railroad was located through this village, but it will probably never be built. The Lehigh telegraph was run through here in 1879, and an office was opened in the store where it still is.

We will now close our history of Harleysville and turn our attention to sketches of Lower Salford.

In 1890, Harleysville contained 252 inhabitants.
Harleysville is 270 feet above sea level.
In 1893 Lower Salford had 444 voters on the list.

Sketches of Lower Salford Township.

Since it has been requested by numerous friends that I write a history of Lower Salford, I will write—not a history of the township, but sketches of its history. I can not say, as a recent writer in a neighboring township, that I have *examined numerous volumes* of its history. For if I knew there were numerous volumes extant I would not bother my brains with it. Or if there were such volumes within reach the writers of the recent History of Montgomery County would not have solicited my assistance.

I never intended to write a history of the township or any other history, but from childhood I observed old landmarks and divisions of land. In later years I took notes from old deeds, old manuscripts and whatever gave information on the affairs of the township, intending at some time to assist a ready writer in compiling a history. About a year ago as I was not very closely engaged I commenced to write a history of Harleysville which has now been published.

In regard to that, there may be small mistakes in it, but as a general thing it may be relied on. I will also add that I am strongly supported by antiquarians and scholars in the opinion that there was a school here in the last century, when the lot now owned by Dr. R. K. Keeler

was owned by a company of twenty-seven men twenty-three years, as was recited at the proper time.

When I commenced to write the History of Harleysville I had no idea that we were to have a weekly paper published here so soon, and that this history would be published at home here. But such has been the change that an effort was made by Mr. Gehman, who fortunately met with success, and the WEEKLY NEWS is now established. This paper has been introduced into numerous families where previously no English paper was read, and its influence will be felt.

It is only a matter of time until every family in this neighborhood will speak the English language. Come it will, and let it come.

In writing these Sketches, whenever I can find evidence, I intend to call other men to the stand and to let them tell the story in their own way. They shall have all the credit for all they say, as I do not want the credit and honor due to other men.

There is considerable of the history of Lower Salford in the History of Montgomery County by Col. Theo. W. Bean, published a few years ago. But in that work there were also mistakes made by both writers and publishers. To bring out a perfect history of the county there should have been a committee appointed in each township, who should have furnished the materials of their township to those who had undertaken to do the writing, and left them to put things into shape in such a way as they thought best, and after it was written it should have been submitted to the committee to see if it was correct. In such a way mistakes might perhaps have been avoided.

With these preliminaries I I will now proceed to tell you that the first land bought in Lower Salford, by actual settlers,

was purchased by

JOHN SHOLL,

September 12, 1715. In October, 1701, David Powel, a Welshman, purchased of William Penn one thousand acres, but did not locate them. On the 28th day of August, 1715, he began to think that it was about time to have some benefit of his purchase, and therefore took out a warrant for eight hundred acres as part of the one thousand acres, and then sold out his tract. Among others he sold to John Sholl one hundred and sixty acres, on September 12th of that year. Ten acres were allowed for roads and the tract was called one hundred and fifty acres.

Johannas Sholl was a German, and in his religion a Mennonite, who came to Skippack on the invitation of Mathias Van Bebber, in 1708.

As the townships were not surveyed then yet the whole country drained by the Skippack was known by that name. It seems a little strange that while the district of Providence and Skippack were settling up and the Skippack road was already laid out in 1713, the territory of Salford, including Upper and Lower Salford, Franconia and Marlborough was still uninhabited.

Salford is variously written in old manuscripts, such as Sulford, Sulphur and Solford. Skippack was frequently written Skepeck, and Perkiomen, Parkyomen and Perkiomie.

As emigrants arrived in great numbers in those days John Sholl sold his premises in Skippack, after residing there about seven years, and went farther into the forest. His tract which he purchased in Salford was located on both sides of a "Branch of the Skippack creek," which is since known as the Little Branch, to distinguish it from the East Branch of the Perkiomen, which is generally called the Branch. Mr. Sholl's land on the Little Branch was a

square tract, one hundred and sixty perches each way. It is now considerably divided and is owned by Jacob Garges, Elizabeth Reiff, Michael Hunsperger, Solomon Wasser and others.

The name of John Sholl appears in the tax list of Salford in 1734, and here he lived at that time, but sold his plantation to Jacob Reiff soon afterward. He was known as Jacob Reiff, the elder of whom I shall have more to say hereafter. He then owned this land including other tracts until the time of his death in 1782, when it went into the hands of his son, Jacob, and he then owned it until 1805, when 230 acres of it went into the hands of his youngest son, Benjamin, and the greater part of it remained in his posession until the time of his death in 1858, when it went to his son, Jacob, who died in 1861. After the death of Jacob Reiff all the land excepting the small farm now owned by Elizabeth Reiff, was sold to strangers.

Considering the age of the latter, it will not be long before all this great plantation, which in the colonial period supported African slavery will be in the possession of strangers, and the place that once knew the Reiffs shall know them no more forever.

What became of John Sholl after he sold his farm is not known, or whether the Sholls residing in Upper or Lower Salford and other places, at this day, are his descendants we can not say, but it is doubtful.

At the time when Mr. Sholl bought this land there was already a residence on the Skippack on what was recently known as Dr. Fry's farm. It then belonged to Henry Joseph Hyde, and the first house stood further down toward the stream than the one now standing there. Soon afterward this property belonged to Peter Tyson. He owned it in 1724 and in 1734 Mr. Sholl received his patent

from William Penn, and it was sealed with the *great seal* of the province.

JOHN VINCENT MEYER.

Another name in the tax list of Lower Salford for the year 1734 is John Vincent Meyer, and his residence was where Solomon Wasser's now is. This tract also has a history, for Mr. Meyer was not the first owner of it. In 1681 Thomas Ellwood, of Hungerhill, England, purchased of William Penn one thousand acres in Pennsylvania. But he perhaps never saw his land. He made his will dated August 20, 1712, and died some time afterward, perhaps ten years later. On May the 20th, 1725, Isaac Pennington and Dorothy White, heirs and executors of Thomas Ellwood, by virtue of a warrant had surveyed one hundred acres to a German named John Reichard (now Richards), who became the first actual settler and owner of the farm now owned by Solomon Wasser. He owned this farm eight years, and, in 1733, sold it to John Vincent Meyer.

He was a German immigrant who arrived in Philadelphia in the ship Friendship, October 16, 1727, in company with Valentine Kratz, Christian Moyer, Illes Cassel, Andrew Schwartz, Johannes Kassel, Abraham Schwartz and others.

This property then included the farm of Albert Reiff, a large part of Solomon Wasser's other farm adjoining his residence, which recently belonged to Christian Allebach, and part of the farm of Isaiah Hendricks. The bounds and distances are thus described: Beginning at a white oak, a corner in a line of Laurence Hendrick's land, which is now a corner of Morris' road, then southwest (in the said road) twenty-four perches to a post, a corner of said Hendrick's land; thence by the same southeast seven perches to a post, a corner of John Welsh's land; thence by the same south-

west one hundred and fifty-eight perches to a post in a line of John Sholl's land; thence by the same northwest ninety-five perches to a post; thence by vacant land northeast one hundred and eighty-two perches; then again by vacant land southeast eighty-eight perches to the place of beginning. This vacant land mentioned here was not all vacant, for it had owners then already. The land on the southeast belonging to John Welsh, for a long time after belonged to Goshen Shroger. His residence was on the Skippack, in Towamencin; it is now the residence of Benjamin Markley. For a long time it was David Allebach's farm.

John Vincent Meyer did not own this property many years, but just how long I can not say, until it came in the hands of Anthony Hallman, a well-to-do farmer of Perkiomen township. On the 21st of September, 1745, Mr. Hallman and his wife, Mary, conveyed this farm still containing one hundred acres to Henry Denigh, of Lower Salford, a German, whose name should have been written Denich, or Denig, as we find it elsewhere.

Mr. Denig owned this property three years, and on the 4th of September, 1745, he and his wife, Margaret, sold it to Henry Ruth. He owned this farm nearly ten years, when he and his wife, Elizabeth, conveyed it to Christian Stauffer by a deed dated May 16, 1755. Christian Stauffer owned this farm sixteen years when he and his wife, Elizabeth, on the 27th day of November, 1771, conveyed it to their adjoining neighbor, Jacob Reiff, Jr., for eight hundred and eighty-five pounds. This deed was acknowledged before Frederick Antes, a justice of the peace in Frederick township, July 13, 1772, and was witnessed by Melchoir Wagoner and Gabriel Shuler.

Jacob Reiff was a speculator, who cut up the farm into small-

er tracts, sold some and kept some for himself.

By selling off he reduced the premises to about forty acres and afterward sold it to Conrad Garges, who was a son of William Garges, also of Lower Salford, whose residence was where John Wasser's now is. I do not have the date of their conveyance, but know that Conrad Garges lived there many years, and died there in 1815. His widow survived him about seventeen years, during which time his unsettled estate remained in the hands of his executor, Benjamin Reiff, Esq. But after her death in 1833 the estate was settled.

After the death of Mr. Garges John Shietel, a son-in-law and a German, of Lower Salford, with the assistance and encouragement of Benjamin Reiff, Esq., purchased the farm under certain conditions. But after living there about eight years he died, and his estate was settled by Abraham Garges, of Lower Salford. For some cause or other it was then found necessary to have the property sold by the Sheriff. The land was divided into two tracts, the one with the buildings containing twenty-four acres, and the other fifteen acres.

On August 16, 1824, the Sheriff, Philip Boyer, sold both tracts at public sale to Joseph Fry. But on March 16, 1826, Joseph Fry and his wife Catharine conveyed it in one tract of thirty-nine acres to Benjamin Reiff, Esq. How long Mr. Reiff owned it I can not say, but I presume he owned it until some time after the death of Mrs. Garges in 1833.

It was perhaps about the time of this event that Mr. Reiff built that frame house for his son, John, where Albert Reiff now lives. In 1838 there was a German, whose name was Seipel, living there, but it was purchased by Solomon Wasser a year or two later. At that time the farm was quite small

and the land poor, but by patient perseverance and industry Mr. Wasser, who was also poor, soon began to improve his land and add acre to acre until he now owns two large farms, has money and other property and is a rich man. The first house which was built of logs stood there one hundred and twenty-two years, but in 1847 Mr. Wasser took it down and built a new stone house. There is a lasting spring near the door which was an inducement to build there. Mr. Wasser also built the large barn and other buildings which are there. All the improvements which are there now were put there by him.

GEORGE REIFF.

It is my design to tell my readers where those people whose names appear in the list of taxables of Lower Salford of 1734 lived. Since we have the name of George Reiff, or John George as we find it sometimes, in the said list, we may wonder where his residence was. The answer will be, it was where T. R. Tyson's now is. He was a son of Hans George Reiff, who purchased the entire southern corner of the township containing two hundred acres from Henry Pannepacker and Eve, his wife, in 1724. Mr Pannepacker was a speculator in land and owned various tracts, but how long he owned the said tract, we are not prepared to say.

Hans George Reiff lived there less than three years, for about the close of the year 1726 he died, and then his premises went to his oldest son, George, or John George. He had yet three other sons named Peter, Conrad and Jacob. The latter was sole executor of his father's estate. How long George Reiff owned this tract is not known, since the deeds have either been lost or destroyed, but in 1741 we find this property belonging to his brother, Jacob, and George and his wife residing in Germantown, where he died in

1759.

All this tract and that of John Sholl, besides other land not yet mentioned, remained in the possession of Jacob Reiff until the time of his death in 1782.

In 1740 George Reiff purchased from his brother, Jacob, one hundred and fifty-seven acres in Lower Salford, and eighty-four acres adjoining from Casper Wistar, comprising in all two hundred and forty-one acres, which he sold to Jacob Shoemaker in 1741, as we shall notice in speaking of Jacob Reiff.

George Reiff made his will dated April 7, 1759, which was probated April 25th ensuing. He left no issue, his wife, Catharine being first he bequeathed his whole estate to her and his three brothers, Peter, Conrad and Jacob and his only sister, Anna Maria, and her son Baltes. He was about sixty-eight years old when he died. The farm which he and his father before him had owned, then belonged to his brother Jacob, in whose possession it remained until the time of his death.

During the latter years of his life this farm was occupied by his son George, who afterwards fell heir to it. He was the third George Reiff who owned this property. He had five sons, and after his oldest son, Abraham, was married they built a house and other outbuildings for him, over near the corner of the township, where Abraham Grater now lives, but for some cause or other Abraham Reiff did not remain there, but removed away down to Whitpain township where he some years later carried on the manufacture of nails, but eventually failed.

George Reiff also bullt a house and other buildings for his son, Daniel, where John Allebach now lives. That was the residence of Daniel Reiff: there he lived and died there in 1815.

After the death of George

Reiff, in 1808, his youngest son, Joseph, bought the old homestead. Here Joseph Reiff was born, here he lived and died here in 1830. This farm then came in the possession of Andrew Tyson, his son-in-law, whose residence it was over fifty years. But during the latter part of his life he sold what yet remained of the farm to his youngest son, Theodore, the present owner. Several lots and parcels of land were sold off during the latter years of Mr. Tyson's life, so that the farm at present contains only about ninety acres.

When this tract was purchased in 1724 it was bounded partly on the northwest side toward Perkiomen by land of

MICHAEL ZIEGLER.

His great tract lay partly in Salford and partly in Perkiomen, while his residence was over on the Skippack road, at the upper end of Skippackville where Oliver Nace now lives. In 1734 he was taxed for one hundred acres of land, but his great tract must have contained many more acres. The greater part of the farm is still owned by his descendants.

Commencing in a line of Hans George Reiff's land and running northwest one hundred and sixty-nine perches, it extended up to the road above, and from a corner there, the line run southwest over to Ziegler's school house on the Swamp road, though more properly called the Skippack road. The greater part of this tract is now contained in the farms of Nathan Keyser, Henry Ziegler and William Reiff. The farm of Mr. Keyser is in Lower Salford, he also is a descendant of Michael Ziegler. His farm and the one belonging to Henry Ziegler in Skippack have belonged to the Ziegler family upwards of one hundred and seventy years.

When Hans George Reiff settled here in 1724 the land on the south west side of his tract down as far as to the Skippack

creek belonged to George Markley, who purchased one hundred and fifty acres from three brothers, William, Dirk and John Renberg, November 16, 1721. Whether Mr. Markley built the first mill on the site of the one now owned by Jacob Smith I cannot say, but in 1772 we find this mill belonging to Peter Keyter At the time of his death Mr. Markley had reduced his farm to twenty acres surrounding his residence, which now belongs to Mr. Freeman, and the other land then belonged to Peter Keyter. Mr. Markley made his will dated May 10th, 1762, devising his whole estate to his wife, and appointed her sole executor. She afterward married John Clemens; then the latter and his wife sold her premises of about twenty acres to Edward Updegrave, September 18, 1772.

CHRISTIAN STAUFFER

Between Morris' road and the turnpike and between the first and second roads above Mainland is a tract of land by old measurement comprising one hundred and eighteen acres, but by modern survey at least one hundred and twenty-five acres, because six percent was always allowed for public roads. This whole tract belonged to Christian Stauffer. It is now owned by Isaac D. Alderfer, Jonas Alderfer, Isaiah Hendricks and Henry Bean. It was not this Christian Stauffer whose name appears on the tax list of 1734, but the other Christian Stauffer whose residence was on the Binder farm at Harleysville, as set forth in its history. These 118 acres were vacant wild land, having no owner before 1733, and unoccupied until 1736. On the 14th of March, 1733, a warrant was granted for the survey of this tract to William Pitts, but he made no improvement here.

On the 4th of March, 1736, a conveyance was made of this tract to Christian Stauffer and was confirmed unto him by a patent dated February 23, 1738.

Here he lived and raised his family. He also kept something of a public house here for the accomodation of travelers.

The North Wales road was located along the edge of this land before he owned it in 1735, but people going to market with their heavy teams from Macungie and Maxatawny preferred using the old wagon road which went down by Stauffer's residence, rather than climb those steep and ungraded hills of the public road, with heavy teams. Then they crossed the Skippack right from there down where there was no hill on either side and came out on the public road at the Towamencin meeting house.

At that time Godshalk Godshalk owned the farm now owned by James Markley, which was then partly in Towamencin, as it still is. When the mill was first built I cannot say, but this is now the third mill that is there After the death of Godshalk Godshalk the property went to his son, Garret Godshalk, who had a brother Jacob Godshalk living in Lower Salford, as we shall see by and by.

After the death of Garret Godshalk this property went to his son Godshalk Godshalk, and after his death it went to his son Garret, who died there January 16, 1849

It will thus be seen that this property was in possession of the Godshalk family during four generations, one hundred years or over. Afterward and more recently it was owned by Charles Wampole, and then by his brother Isaac W. Wampole, who, after some years, sold it to Jacob Moyer, the father-in-law of James Markley, the present owner.

Godshalk Godshalk was taxed in Towamencin ; in 1734 he is rated for one hundred and twenty acres of land, and his neighbor, Lawrence Hendricks, whose residence was where Henry Bergey's now is, was then rated on one hundred and

fifty acres, the greater part of these lands were in Lower Salford. The farm of Lawrence Hendricks likewise remained in the Hendricks' family until about the year 1860.

After Christian Stauffer had raised his family he built a substantial stone house and other buildings out at the public road where Jonas Alderfer now lives. He then cut off thirty-eight acres of his farm for his own use and some time afterward sold the remaining eighty acres to his son, Mathias Stauffer, who lived there during the time of the Revolution. After the battle of Germantown, when the army encamped on the Skippack, a number of officers took lodging and boarding at his house.

On April 2, 1771, Christian Stauffer and his wife, Elizabeth, conveyed to their son, Mathias, the farm containing eighty acres belonging to Isaac D. Alderfer, for four hundred pounds, though the farm is less in size now.

Christian Stauffer knowing the uncertainty of this life, made his last will and testament in writing dated May 10, 1773, and died near the end of the year 1781, His will was probated January 11, 1782. The witnesses were Melchoir Wagoner and Owen Thomas. His two sons, John Uly and Mathias, were the executors. His oldest son, Yellis, was to receive one shilling more than his equal share, in lieu of his double share as the custom then was. There were six children, namely: Yelles, John Uly, (also written John Ulrich), Mathias, Gertraut, Elizabeth and Ann Mary.

We now find the name of Stauffer changed to Stauver and in German the pronunciation is quite as good as the English Stauffer. Those two executors Mathias and John Uly, then sold their father's farm containing thirty-eight acres to Peter Boorse, for £575, and gave him a deed dated December 26, 1782. This deed was acknowledged before Michael Croll, of Upper

Salford, January 18, 1783. Daniel Hiester, Esq., was the witness.

Mr. Boorse then bought yet two adjacent tracts to his farm, one from Bernard Getz and Eve, his wife, by a deed dated March 10, 1783, containing twenty-five acres and one hundred and thirteen perches. This tract lay adjoining his other tract, but on the other side of the great road. It was part of one hundred and twenty acres and thirty four perches which Casper Wistar and Catharine, his wife, conveyed to Frederick Getz, father of Bernard, June 7, 1748. The other tract containing thirteen acres and forty-eight perches on the northwest side of his farm he purchased from Jacob Reiff and Catharine, his wife, May 28, 1788. This farm was owned by Peter Boorse, and after him descended to his son, John, who owned it many years. After his death it went to his son, Peter, who sold it to Mr. Alderfer, the present owner.

At that time John Uly Stauver was a resident of Upper Salford, and some years later Mathias bought the farm now owned by Septimus Kriebel, in Towamencin and moved on it. He and his wife, Ann, then sold their eighty acre farm in Lower Salford to their son, Christian Stover, and gave him a deed dated June 11, 1796, which was acknowledged before Christian Weber, and witnessed by Joseph Yeakel. On April 20, 1833, Christian Stover and his wife, Elizabeth conveyed the same tract to their son, Eli Stover, who sold it to Samuel Harley fifteen or more years later. It will thus be seen that this farm was in the Stauffer family over one hundred years.

About the year 1804 Christian Stover, or Stauffer as he was generally called in German, purchased about twenty-nine acres of land from the adjoining farm then belonging to John Reiff, and about the year 1830 he put buildings on it and occu-

pied it himself yet twelve or fifteen years. The house was frame and only small. Other buildings were small and temporary. It was afterwards owned by Daniel K. Cassel a number of years, who put new and substantial buildings there, but it is now owned by Michael Landes.

JACOB REIFF.

Since the name of Jacob Reiff appears on the tax list of 1734 we must also tell our readers where his residence was. He was the most prominent man in the early history of Salford and to omit his name would be a matter of great injustice. At that time his residence was on the Little Branch, where recently lived Elias Kulp, deceased.

On May 33, 1682, William Penn granted to John Longhurst a deed for 250 acres of land in the forest of Pennsylvania, and on July 25, 1685, a deed was granted to the aforesaid for 500 acres more, to be surveyed to him by Thomas Birchall.

These deeds were carefully preserved by the descendants of Jacob Reiff until recently they unfortunately came into the hands of George S. Nice, of Frederick township.

From what part of England John Longhurst came I cannot say just now, but I can say that he afterwards emigrated to Pennsylvania, lived in the city of Philadelphia and died there. On the 4th and 5th of November, 1720, Elizabeth Richardson, of the city of Philadelphia, relict and executrix of John Barber, deceased, late of Sussex, England, granted to Samuel Powell, a carpenter of the city of Philadelphia, 386 acres of land, unsurveyed.

On the 24th and 25th of March, 1721, John Longhurst and Olive, his wife, Elizabeth Richardson, widow, and Sarah Owen, widow, all son and daughters of John Longhurst, deceased, residents of the said city, by lease and release, grant-

ed to Samuel Powell "the further quantity of one hundred and sixty acres." Consequently five days later, on the 30th of March, 1721, a warrant was issued by Robert Hill, James Logan and Richard Ashton, commissioners of property, directing Jacob Taylor, surveyor general, to survey to Samuel Powell 546 acres in the county of Philadelphia. "Accordingly there was surveyed unto him one tract on the Skippack containing 343 acres, another tract containing 157 acres near Bebber's township and a third tract containing forty-six acres near the Skippack, with the usual allowance of six per cent. for roads and highways."

In reading these old deeds it is well enough to be careful that we do not fall in error by the repitition of the "further quantity" and read it "double quantity," as it seemingly appears to be.

At that time there were but few settlers in the township and the townships were not surveyed yet. The land owners bordering these tracts I will mention as John Sholl, Michael Ziegler, Hans Reiff, Gabriel Shuler and most likely Joseph Jones and Henry Pannepacker, the last two were no settlers.

Time passed on and Samuel Powell perhaps never saw his land until December 1st and 2d, 1727, when he sold it all to Jacob Reiff by lease and release. In 1721 when Samuel Powell purchased this land there was yet much vacant land in the territory, but little of the forest had been cut away, and at the close of the year 1727, when Mr. Reiff purchased this land, there was yet some vacant land.

If my readers will follow me we will take a walk around a tract of land containing 584 acres by old measure, but as the country is improving it is much more now. This tract was thirty-eight acres more than Samuel Powel wanted and con-

sequently a part of this tract was left unsold at that time. But all the land purchased by Samuel Powell in this district he sold to Jacob Reiff.

We will now start on the North Wales turnpike on the line dividing the lands of William Keyser and Godshalk Delp, southwest about fifty perches to the corner of said Delp's land as the place of beginning. Then we will go southeast along his line and across the fields and woods down to the middle of the public road, one hundred and six perches; then southwest along the said road two hundred perches to Morris' road; then northwest two perches, or nearly to the new road; then southwest, not in the road for the road is not on the old line but near it, across the Little Branch, up the hill and out the new road to the Middle of Broad street three hundred and forty-two perches; then northwest along said road thirty-one perches to the new road; then southwest along said road fifty-four perches to a corner; then northwest one hundred and sixty perches nearly to the other road. From that corner we will go northeast out that road by John Sherley's lot toward George Heckler's to a point for a long time a corner in Peter Garges' field; then southeast across the Little Branch at the closed creamery up the hill to a stone; then northeast along the road to a corner near Harman Fogel's house; then southeast along the line of Mr. Fogel's land forty-two perches to a stone, along here the line has been obliterated in recent years, but we go across a field northeast thence along the line dividing the lands of Abraham B. Alderfer and Sylvanus Koch to the place of beginning.

This is now the tract which was sold in 1721, containing, according to old surveys, 584 acres. From this place of beginning Jacob Taylor went around, in 1721, the same way

we did until he came to the Little Branch near Nice's dam and then cut off a tract containing 343 acres.

This tract was said to be near the Skippack. Then Jacob Taylor went around the other tract and cut off 156 acres near Bebber's township, bordering Michael Ziegler's land, leaving eighty-four acres and ninety-two perches between the two tracts unsold. Then, to fill the 546 acres, he went up on the elevation and cut off yet forty-six acres along a tract of Hans Reiff's land, which was not "near the Skippack," but up on both sides of the present Harleysville and Lederachville turnpike, and is now owned by Rev. Jacob C. Moyer and Samuel Landes.

In 1730 Mr. Reiff sold these forty-six acres to Christian Allebach, whose residence was where Rev. Jacob C. Moyer's now is. It was then bounded by lands of Henry Ledrach, Hans Reiff, Christian Allebach, Henry Ruth and vacant land. Their conveyance bears date April 15th of that year. On the 16th of May, the same year —1730—he sold 100 acres to Lawrence Bingeman. This farm is now owned by Abraham B. Alderfer. We will speak of this farm more definitely hereafter.

There has been much speculation on the part of historians and antiquarians about a log church which had been built on Mr. Reiff's land, called the Skippack German Reformed church, but we intend to make this matter a subject by itself further on.

Jacob Reiff, the Elder, as he is generally called, was about thirty-five years old when he was married, and entered into conjugal relations about the year 1733. There has been some inquiry as to who his wife was, but it is not known. She probably was a woman of some distinction because she wrote a neat hand in English, which German

women could not do. In 1734 he lived on the Little Branch where the late Elias Kulp, deceased lived.

After selling one hundred acres of the 343 acre tract to Lawrence Bingeman in 1730 he had remaining of that tract 243 acres. Fifty acres were surveyed to the Skippack Reformed church, which left remaining 193 acres. This tract he sold to his brother, Peter Reiff August 9, 1737. He having purchased the adjoining farm from John Sholl for his residence, in 1743 built the first mill on the Little Branch. This mill was then in the Reiff family for nearly one hundred years. Mr. Reiff had a slave plantation and most of his work was done by negroes.

When he built the mill the negroes dug the race from the dam down to the mill. This race was made to serve two purposes, first, to convey the water to the mill which contained an overshoot water wheel, and, second, to irrigate the meadows when the water was plenty. At the same time they also raised an embankment as is still to be seen along the road, which was intended to serve as a reservoir to keep water in store for the mill. But the embankment was too weak and broke through by the heavy pressure of the water and the burrowing of muskrats that the reservoir was a failure. This embankment is facetiously called the "Irish dam" to this day. It is presumable that Jacob Reiff also built the first house, barn and other buildings and made a premises at the mill, and that for some years he had a miller living there.

If tradition may be trusted we may add that when he found that the church which had been built on his land some years previously, was a failure, he took it down and used some of the material in building that mill. He was a man of great force of character and stood high

in the estimation of the leading men of the county. He was also a hard working man as is proven by the following entry in the supervisors account of August 20, 1760: "Jacob Reiff, the elder, haulded for repairing the road with his son Jacob's wagon and four horses." There were others also who hauled at the same time.

At that date he was about sixty-two years old and worked hard then yet. About that time he made his will. It was dated October 21, 1761, but he lived until February 16, 1782, when he died aged eighty-three years, three months and one day. His wife, Anna, survived him yet over six years. She died October 28, 1788, aged seventy-nine years.

At the time of his death all the witnesses to his will were dead and the will could therefore not be proven, but his three children, Jacob George and Catharine, made a mutual settlement of the estate according to the provisions of his will, and released each other February 28, 1783. (See release deed book No. 4, page 29, Norristown.)

In 1765 Jacob Reiff, Jr., and George, his brother, purchased the mill on the Pine Run, near Chalfont, Bucks county, from Simon Butler and owned it nine years when they sold it to Thomas Mathews in 1774. In 1762 when the Wentz's church was built Jacob Reiff, Jr., was one of the trustees. And if I am not mistaken he also was a deacon of that church in later years.

In 1776 Jacob Reiff, Jr., was taxed for 275 acres of land in Lower Salford and thirty acres in Towamencin, and he at the time was assessor. He then had two negroes, five horses and nine cows. His brother, George, was then taxed for 200 acres of land, one servant, three horses and seven cows.

I have not said near all about Jacob Reiff, the elder, that can

be said, but I want to bring another man to the stand and to let him say something further on. I shall therefore speak of his descendants.

Jacob Reiff, Jr., was married to Catharine Schneider and George, his brother, to Elizabeth Hendricks. Catharine Reiff, their sister, was a widow living in Oley, Berks county, at the time her father's estate was settled. Who her husband had been is not known.

In 1768 Jacob Reiff, Jr., purchased one acre and one hundred and ten perches of land from Jacob Fry, of Towamencin, and Margaret, his wife. This small tract was at the lower end of Mr. Reiffs land, for it was at the Skippack creek. This deed recites that it was part of two hundred acres of land which had been conveyed to Jacob Fry October 13, 1732 by his father, Heinrich Fry. I mention this matter especially to correct the mistake which was made in the History of Montgomery County where, in the history of Towamencin, it is stated that Heinrich Fry purchased twelve hundred and fifty acres on the Towamencin creek in 1724. Whereas this deed recites that it was two hundred acres which he purchased from Benjamin Fairman December 10, 1724.

The land across the Towamencin line opposite to the mill belonged to Goshen Shroger until September 14, 1769, when he and his wife, Margaret, conveyed one hundred and six acres to Christian May. About a year and a half later, on Abril 28, 1771, Mr. May and his wife, Mary, conveyed the same tract with other lands to Adam Gotwals. One year later, on May 27, 1772, Jacob Reiff, Jr., purchased thirty acres of this tract from Adam Gotwals and his wife, Fronica. These were then those thirty acres in Towamencin for which he was taxed in 1776. In the tax list of 1776 we find John Smith, miller, taxed for one horse and

three cows, but no land. It is therefore probable that he was the tenant who run the mill for Jacob Reiff, Jr.

On the 29th of May, 1734, John Welsh, of Towamencin, who apparently, at one time, owned a large tract of land on the Skippack, sold twenty-three acres to a German shoemaker, whose name was Valentine Barndt Heisle; so his name is written in the deed, but on the tax list of Towamencin, in 1734, we find his name Felty Consenheiser. Several years subsequently this same tract was sold to Christopher Miller, evidently a poor man who probably intended to put a house on it.

It was through the assistance of Jacob Reiff, the elder, financially, that he became the owner of it. But after some time, as Mr. Miller did not consumate his plans and his promises, Mr. Reiff fearing he would be the loser, turned over his claim to Nicholas Scull, who at that time was high Sheriff for the city and county of Philadelphia. The latter presented the claim of Mr Reiff to court, which, after taking action on the matter, issued a writ of *venditioni exponas* to his majesty's officer, who after due notice, sold those twenty three acres of land at public sale to Christian Miller, who made satisfaction for Mr. Reiff's claim in 1745. Nine years later, November 12, 1754, this same tract lying adjacent to Jacob Fry's land was purchased by him.

In 1776 Jacob Fry was rated on 260 acres of land. He made his will dated February 28, 1782, and therein appointed his (second) wife, Susanna, and Adam Gottwals executors. He had three sons named Jacob, Joseph and George. He ordered in his will that his land should be divided among his three sons, but for some reason or other that I do not recollect, at least some of the land was sold by the executors, October 3, 1794.

John Reiff was the purchaser

of eighty-four acres and forty perches, but whether he bought all that was sold I can not say, This land was in Towamencin extending down to the Skippack creek, adjacent to Mr. Reiff's other land; it was also partly on the east side of the Forty-foot road. This road was laid out in 1752.

John Reiff was the second son of Jacob and Catharine Reiff. He was married to Barbara Funk for his first wife, and espoused the cause of Christian Funk. He was a preacher in that sect and built a meeting house on the Forty foot road in Towamencin for the use of that sect in 1814, on land which he had purchased from the executors of Jacob Fry.

There was some dispute between John Reiff and his elder brother, Jacob, as to which of them should have their father's mill, but it was finally settled that John should have it, when Jacob went down to the Wissahickon and purchased a mill there.

A deed was granted to John Reiff by his parents for one hundred and thirteen acres of land including those thirty acres in Towamencin, which his father had purchased in 1772, and the mill and other buildings for £2300, February 20, 1806.

John Reiff and his wife, Barbara, had five children, two sons and three daughters. Barbara Reiff died July 27, 1798, in the 39th year of her age. John Reiff afterward married Elizabeth Cassel, but had no issue. He built a saw mill on the other side of the Skippack in Towamencin, where much lumber has been sawed even in late years. He also had a distillery to manufacture *schnaps*. There was much fruit on that farm many years ago, for I recollect that there was one of the old kind of cider mills standing near the race behind the wagonhouse, and the orchard extended along the race back of the barn. He was a speculator and bought and sold

much land. When he bought a farm he always sold it out in smaller tracts. I could not begin to name all the tracts purchased by John Reiff and sold out in lots or divided into smaller tracts by him.

Mr. Mathews in the North Wales *Record* of June 19, 1886, relates that John Reiff, of Lower Salford, and Hugh Cousty, son-in-law to John Jenkins, a wheelwright of Perkiomen, purchased of Peter Lukens in 1803 the whole northern corner of Gwynedd township above Lansdale, containing one hundred and fifty-eight and three-fourth acres which they divided into small tracts and sold them out.

On October 7, 1819, John Reiff, Sr. and his wife Elizabeth, transferred the farm and the mills to his two sons, John and Jacob. Six and a half years later, January 29, 1826, Jacob died, and John, his father, one week later, February 6th, and his wife Elizabeth, February 25th of the same year.

It will thus be seen that in less than a month three adults died in the same house. After the death of Jacob Reiff, his widow, (still living,) and Henry Swartley, took out letters of administration, and sold his interest in the farm and mills to his brother, John, April 11, 1827. He was generally known as John Reiff, the miller. He was married to Catharine Price, and belonged to the Dunkard church. He has been spoken of by old people who knew him, as a very fine man and a zealous Christian. He had four children by his first wife, Catharine, who died November 1, 1820, aged thirty-one years, one month and eighteen days. He afterward married his second wife, widow, Margaret Stem, relict of John Stem, and daughter of Gabriel Swartzlander, of Bucks county, by whom he had yet one daughter named Catharine. By his will, dated August 14, 1830, he devised his farm and his mills to his only son, Henry P. Reiff,

and the meeting house with half an acre of ground, on the Forty-foot road, to the use of the Dunkard church forever.

In 1834 Henry P. Reiff and his wife, Mary, sold the saw mill and twelve acres of land to Christian Stover, and his son, Eli, for $1,425. They owned this property three years, but in 1837, Christian Stover, and his wife, Elizabeth, and Eli Stover and his wife, Hannah, sold the same property to Jacob C. Overholtzer, for $1,800. Mr. Overholtzer then built a house at the corner on the Forty foot road and made a premises there, and three years later, in 1840, sold the same property to Eli Stover, for $3,500. He owned the saw mill and a chopping mill, which he built there, about thirty years. It is now owned by Jos. K. Nice.

In 1840 Henry P. Reiff sold his mill and farm to Jacob Allebach, who owned it until the time of his death, in 1869. The mill has a good water power. It has always been good excepting in extreme dry weather. The old mill had a basement, as the one now standing has. Above the basement was one story and an attic. There was also a dwelling with two rooms on each floor at the east end of the mill, in which the miller generally lived. There was also a wing built additionally to the mill in early times, in which was the machinery for carding wool. Very good wool-rolls were made there when the spinning wheel was an indispensible article in every family. Wool carding was done in the summer when there was not so much grinding and chopping grain on hand. After harvest the women wanted their wool-rolls to spin and to prepare for the following winter. The old farm house that stood there was built for two families. It was a lareg stone dwelling.

During those twenty-nine years that Jacob Allebach owned this property, he rebuilt nearly

or quite all the buildings. The farm house was rebuilt about the year 1845, the mill with the house attched to it in 1860, and the barn and other buildings since. When the old mill was torn down a board was found stuck away on the attic bearing the date, "Built by Jacob and Anna Reiff, 1743."

I was reminded of this event recently by Henry P. Reiff, who was present at that time, and he says they found old wood there which apparently had been used in the old church previously.

After Eli Stover had built a chopping mill to his saw mill, Jacob Allebach built a saw mill about the year 1846. It stood at the hill north-west from the house. There was much sawing done there, until the mill was worn out. After the death of Jacob Allebach it was taken away. It had an overshot water-wheel and the water was taken down on it from the race across the road. For a number of years Michael Freed, now of Grater's Ford, lived in the house attahed to the mill during the time it was owned by Mr. Allebach, and had a machine shop at the mill with the machinery connected with the water wheel. There he manufactured his noted "Freed's Patent Feed Cutters." Those feed cutters were considered the best in use at that time.

After the death of Jacob Allebach his administrators sold the farm and mill to Joseph K. Nyce. The latter separated the mill from the farm, and sold the farm to Jacob Tyson, the present owner. Sometime afterward Mr. Nyce purchased the saw and chopping mills on the other side of the Skippack, from Eli Stover. In 1877, Joseph K. Nyce had steam fixtures and an engine put into his grist mill, and other improvements made. The steam is only used in extreme dry weather. A few years ago, perhaps in 1883, Joseph K. Nyce sold his grist mill and other improvements

belonging there to to his son, David, and built for himself a house on the other side of the Skippack, near the saw mill. David D. Nyce then introduced machinery for the manufacture of stockings, into the additional wing of his mill, and that industry had been carried on until about a year ago, when it was discontinued.

I must now go back again to the old Reiff homestead, which was the residence of John Sholl, for at least, twenty years, and after him it was the residence of Jacob Reiff, the elder, at least forty-five years. Jacob Reiff, Jr., lived there over seventy years. There all his sons and daughters were born and raised. There his youngest son Benjamin was born. There he lived a long and useful life, and died there, July 11, 1858, in the eightieth year of his age. Benjamin Reiff, was a Justice of the Peace and conveyancer, over forty years. Like his father before him, he was an influential and a very useful man. In 1811 12-13-14, he was a member of the Legislature. In 1829-30-31 he was State Senator. His father, Jacob Reiff, before him, was a member of the Legislature in 1786-87-88-89. He also was an honorable man. On September 21, 1805, Jacob Reiff and his wife Catharine, conveyed to their youngest son, Benjamin, 230 acres of land He built a house and made a premises for his son Michael where George Wiegner lives, one for his son John, where Albert Reiff lives and one for his son-in-law, Christian Allebach, on the farm now owned by Solomon Wasser.

In later years, perhaps in 1844, Benjamin Reiff built that house and made a premises where his daughter Elizabeth, the last survivor of his family lives. During the latter years of his life he was very solicitious about his lands, desiring that the different tracts might remain in the possession of some of his descendants. But after the death of

his son Jacob in 1861, all his lands excepting the small farm still owned by Elizabeth Reiff were sold to strangers. I will not trouble ym readers with a long encomium of the dead, though much could be said of the kindness, generosity, and Christian character of the late venerable Benjamin Reiff. But I will relate that in the Autumn of 1841, my father and my mother and the whole family excepting myself were sick a long time of typhoid fever. I was but a boy then and could not do much hard work yet, but Benjamin Reiff already an old man and his two sons, Jacob and William, came to our assistance, hauled out our manure and put in the seeding, all out of kindness toward us as neighbors for no other pay than an approving conscience. It was not only to us they were kind, but to all their neighbors, especially so in cases of sickness or misfortune. Besides, he was a zealous member of the German Reformed church and contributed liberally to its support.

Those eighty-four acres of vacant land lying between the two tracts of Jacob Reiff's land remained vacant until December 29, 1739, when the tract was sold to Casper Wistar. On August 8, 1737, Jacob Reiff sold the 157 acre tract, "near Bebber's township," lying adjacent to Michael Ziegler's land, to his brother George, and a few years afterward purchased his brother George's farm where T. R. Tyson now lives, and George Reiff removed to Germantown. On April 24, 1740, George Reiff purchased those eighty-four acres from Casper Wistar, of Germantown, which then made a tract of 241 acres belonging to George Reiff. But on May 16, 1741, he and his wife, Catharine, conveyed this same tract of 241 acres of land to Jacob Shoemaker, for £300. At that time George Reiff was a resident of Germantown, where he died in 1759. It will thus be seen that Jacob Shoe-

maker was the first actual settler where Abraham G. Alderfer now lives, and his tract of land comprised 241 acres. It included the farms now belonging to Jesse Ziegler, Jacob R. Bergey, Godshall Bergey, William Kinsey, and Abraham G. Alderfer. Jacob Shoemaker was perhaps the first of the Shoemaker family in these parts. Quite a number of men and women bearing that name have descended from him. He also had a son Jacob who lived there at the time of the Revolution, when yet a few old Indian squaws found protection under his roof. They attended to the cattle and did chores for the family for their board as long as they could. They died there and are buried in the old Lederach family burying ground, now belonging to Abraham R. Freed, near Lederachville. Some time after purchasing this tract Mr. Shoemaker sold one-hundred acres of it to Henry Cassel. It now includes Godshall Bergey's and William Kinsey's farms.

Mr. Shoemaker's tract then contained yet 141 acres. It was about the time of the Revolution or soon after that Mr. Shoemaker's barn was struck by lightning and burnt away which was a very rare occurrence in those days. This farm remained in the Shoemaker family until October 10, 1795, when it was sold by George Shoemaker, of East Perkiomen, and Michael Shoemaker, of Franconia, administrators, to Bernhard Fryer.

Twenty-five or thirty years later they built a house for their son Christian Fryer, where Jacob R. Bergey and his father, Rev. David Bergey, now reside. Bernhard Fryer died about the year 1845, and then his son, Henry, owned the farm. After the death of his first wife, Henry Fryer sold his farm to his son-in-law, Abraham G. Alderfer, the present owner, April 1, 1857. The first house built on Jesse Ziegler's place

was put there by Peter Diemer about the year 1838.

Peter Reiff, who purchased 193 acres of land from his brother, Jacob, in 1737, was a smith. His residence was on the Little Branch, and his land included what now belongs to Henry Houpt, George Wiegner, Henry R. Landes, Henry Becker, part of Dillman Souder's farm and a strip of Solomon Wasser's farm. He and his wife, Margaret, owned this land nearly eight years and then sold it to John Ulrich Stover (or Stauffer.) April 17 1745. He and his wife, Catharine, then owned this property nearly forty years when they sold it to their son, Gerhart Stover, December 14, 1784, But he owned it only a little over three years when he and his wife, Margaret, sold it to Jacob Reiff, Jr., on May 1, 1788, for £1350. Three weeks later, on May 21, 1788, Jacob Reiff and his wife, Catharine, conveyed 106 acres of the said tract to their son, John Reiff. for the sum of £743. The remaining eighty-seven acres and other lands were some years later conveyed to their son, Benjamin Reiff, who built that house for his son, Michael, where George Wiegner. now resides

There was a log house and a log barn on that farm yet in my recollection. It stood on the northeast side of the stream coming down from John Sherley's, and not far from their residence. The place may still be identified. It is also said there was once a dwelling near Harman Fogel's barn. Our grandfathers have told us so. John Reiff. after owning his tract of 106 acres some time, sold the premises containing about thirty acres, and the remainder he sold out in lots of four or more acres each. Daniel Kramer, bought several of those lots adjoining each other and built the first house where Henry R. Landes lives, in the begining of this century. Afterward different

owners purchased adjoining lots to it. Joseph Heckler, who built the second house there in 1858, owned that farm forty-seven years. He also purchased several adjacent tracts.

Daniel Kramer had a brother Andrew, who was a Captain of the militia. It was said he had served in the war of 1812, and afterward he was at the head of the militia when they were drawn out to muster as the law then required.

I have now told you all about the Reiffs that I intend to say. I have told all about the mill and the owners it had from time to time, the several tracts of land and their histories, excepting the tract sold to Lawrence Bingaman in 1730, which I will relate after a while. But I will now introduce my readers to Mr. Henry S. Dotterer, of Philadelphia, who will tell you many things of which I have been silent. Especially so about the old church of which I will have something more to say before the close of these sketches.

"Jacob Reiff, an early settler of Salford township, was intimately associated with the affairs of the region commonly named Skippack. He was a man of superior intelligence, held public office for several years, owned considerable quantities of land, and was conspicuously identified with the interests of the German Reformed church in Pennsylvania.

"John George Reiff, his father, on the 16th of May, 1724, purchased of Henry Pannebecker and Eve, his wife, a tract of 200 acres, located in Salford township, Philadelphia county, bounded on the southwest by the line of Bebber's (afterwards Perkiomen and Skippack) township, on the southeast by land of Peter Tyson, on the northeast by land of John Shull, and on the northwest by vacant land and land of Michael Ziegler. John George Reiff was by occupation a smith. He died shortly before the 7th of Janu-

ary, 1727, leaving a wife, Anna Maria Reiff, and four sons and one daughter, viz: George Reiff, the eldest son; Peter Reiff, Conard Reiff, Jacob Reiff, who was appointed sole executor; and Anna Maria Reiff. In his will, which was dated December 15, 1726, he designates his trusty friends, Isack Duboy and Lorrents Switzer, to see that its provisions are carried out. John Scholl, Garett Indehaven and Robert Jones were witnesses to to the signature to the will.

"George Reiff, the eldest son of John George Reiff, died at Germantown in April, 1759. He left his property to his wife Catharine, to his brothers Jacob, Peter, and Conard, and to his sister Anna Maria and her son, Baltes.

"Conard Reiff settled in Oley, where, on August 25, 1733, he purchased 300 acres of Caspar Wistar. Peter Reiff also is said to have gone to Oley

"The exact date of the arrival of Jacob Reiff (who doubtless came with his father) in this country has not been determined. From the diary of Gerhart Clemens, who purchased in 1718 of David Powell six hundred and ninety acres in Lower Salford township, the following extracts are made which indicate that Jacob Reiff was engaged in business here as early as July, 1723: 'Anno 1723, den 2dten Juli hab ich mit Jacob Reiff abgerehnet; bleib ich im noch schuldig auf das land noch 14 Pund 18 schilling.' * * * 'hab ich Jacob Reiff wieder 6 punt auf die sum bezalt.' The latter entry is without date. The translation is: July 2, 1723, settled with Jacob Reiff; balance due him on the land 14 Pounds 18 Shillings. * * * Paid Jacob Reiff 6 pounds on account. Mr. James Y. Heckler, who kindly furnished these extracts, justly remarks: 'If he (Jacob Reiff) was entrusted by the Colonial government as agent to go around among the settlers to collect partial payments on their

lands in 1723, he must have been here some time before, well acquainted, and in the confidence of the leading men.'

"On December 1, 1727, Jacob Reiff, of Skippack, yeoman, bought three tracts, containing together 546 acres, viz: one parcel, 'near Skippack,' of 343 acres; a tract 'near Bebber's township,' adjoining lands of Hans George Reiff, Michael Ziegler, John Shull, and Hans Reiff, and vacant land, 157 acres; and another tract, 'near Skippack' adjoining land of Christian Allebach, Henry Rudd, Andrew Lederach, and Hans Reiff and vacant land, 46 acres. On the 16th of May, 1730, he sold 100 acres to Lawrence Bingeman. In the tax list of Salford township, for 1734, Jacob Reiff is returned as the owner of 150 acres, and Hans Reiff and George Reiff as owners of 100 acres each.

"The plantation which Jacob Reiff retained for his home was located near the southeast border of the present township of Lower Salford, on both sides of the Little Branch creek, near the Skippack. This property became famous as the place upon which the Skippack Reformed church was erected, and it was the family homestead until recently of the pioneer owner's descendants.

"It was here that he lived during the years of his official life, when he held the responsible position of deputy for the probate of wills, by authority from William Plumstead, register general. The precise period during which he acted in this capacity has not been ascertained by the writer, but it covered at least the years 1743 and 1748 inclusive. Wills were brought to him for probate from many of the interior townships, such as Salford, Hanover, Amity, Oley, Perkiomen and Skippack, Towamencin, Maidencreek, Saucon, Rockhill, Colebrookdale Worcester, Providence and Franconia. The ob-

ject in having a German-speaking deputy located here, was doubtless, to accommodate those German inhabitants, who lived a great distance from Philadelphia and were ingorant of the English language.

"Very few of the early immigrants revisited the Fatherland. Jacob Reiff was an exception; he made two voyages to Europe. He went to Holland and Germany in 1727, 'to fetch his Relations' He returned in the ship Mortonhouse, whose passengers signed the declaration at Philadelphia on August 19, 1729. This vessel brought one hundred and eighty persons. Among these he and one other had previously been in Pennsylvania, and they recorded their names: 'Jacob Reiff, formerly of Pa.' and 'Jacob Sellers, of Germantown.' One of the passengers who came was Veronica Reiff, who doubtless was one of his relatives, but it is almost certain she was not, as has been stated, his wife. Among the other passengers, in this ship's company, were Dielman Kolb, Henrich Schlengluff, Wendel Wiant, Christopher Schambach, Friederich Marsteller, and Johann George Crœsmann, who settled in the Perkiomen and Skippack valleys and became worthy citizens and founders of families. Before embarking for his return to America, Mr. Reiff laid out his money in goods suitable for use in Pennsylvania which he brought with him for sale here. This was then the custom; and it was far better to bring saleable merchandise than the money of Europe which was not current here.

"Before giving an account of Mr. Reiff's second visit to Europe it is necessary to go back some years and to speak of his church connection. And this will bring us to the most trying and important event in his career. In the year 1727, the congregation of the German Reformed church of Skippack, of which George Michael Weiss

was chosen pastor, was organized. Wendel Kieber, Gerhart Indshaven, Chistopher Schmidt and George Reiff were elected elders.

"Jacob Reiff was connected with this congregation from its first establisment. After his return from Holland, several of the elders of the Skippack congregation, and of the German Reformed church at Philadelphia, as also Rev. George Michael Weiss, earnestly entreated Mr. Reiff to go to Holland and Germany once more, to accompany Pastor Weiss, who was going over to receive certain money then held by the Reformed Classes of Holland for the building of churches in Pennsylvania, and to assist Mr. Weiss in his efforts to collect additional sums for the same purpose elsewhere in Holland and in Germany. The collections thus made were to be for the use of the Reformed churches at Skippack and Philadelphia, which were in 'unhappy and necessitous condition' He was then engaged in erecting certain buildings on his plantation in Salford, and it was likely to be very prejudicial to his affairs to be absent. Although promised reasonable satisfaction for his time and trouble, he declined at first to go. However, he was still urged to undertake the journey. In order to get rid of these importunities he offered to contribute five pounds out of his own pocket toward sending another person on the errand. At length, he was prevailed on to go upon the hazardous and troublesome voyage, to the great displeasure and uneasiness of his most intimate friends and relations. Before his departure the elders of the two congregations signed an agreement to compensate him generously for his trouble.

"The solicitude of the church officers to obtain Mr. Reiff's services for this important mission, was doubtless due to his high standing in the com-

munity, his pecuniary responsibility, and his experience and ability in business matters. They gave him written authority to attend to the financial part of the work, and, in case Mr. Weiss did not return to America, to assume full charge and also to procure another minister at Heidelberg, for the congregations. This paper* was signed at Philadelphia, on the 19th of May, 1730, by the elders of both churches, as follows: Of the Philadelphia congregation—J. Diener, M. D., Pieter Lecolie, Johann Wilm Rœrig, Henrich Weller, Georg Peter Hillengass, Hans Michael Frœlich, and Michael Hillengass; of the Skippack congregation—Wendel Kieber, Deobalt Jung, Christophel Schmitt, Gerhart Indeheven, Georg Reiff, and Georg Phillip Dodderer. Reiff and Weiss embarked for Holland, and in due time arrived there in safety.

"When Weiss was ready to return to Pennsylvania, he gave Reiff, (who did not return until later), the collection book in which were entered certain subscriptions. Mr. Reiff received

*The following is a copy of this document. It was used by Rev. Henry Harbaugh, D. D., in the preparation of his work, 'The Fathers of the Reformed Church,' and is now in the possession of Prof. Joseph Henry Dubbs, D. D., of Lancaster, Pa:

"Nachdem unser Herr Pastor Weisses sich resolviret mit seinem bey sich habenden Geferte Jacob Reiff nach England und Rotterdam eine Reise zu thun um die Colecte welche da in loco um erbauung einer Kirche allhiesigen Landes bereit liegen; als wird Jacob Reiff hiermit die Volmacht gegeben alles zu besorgen damit Herr Weiss mit sachen sogleich expedirt und zur rueckkehr nach Pensilvanien begeben soll. Wie wir ihnes dan alles auf sein gutes geniessen uebergeben, auch die Volmacht in allem ueberlassen. Welches wir zur Steuer eigenhaendig unterschreiben. So geschechen Philadelphia, d. 19 May, 1730

"Es wird dabey gebete Jacob Reiff mœchte alles auf solche arth richten dass wenn H. P. Weiss nicht mehr in dass Land komme wolte oder solte, er als Reiff so gleich einen von Heidelberg mit sich zu nehmen ihm auf das nœthigste zu besorge: wellen wir wenn allenfals die Collecte Gelder nicht mehr in loci wæren nicht nœthig finden dass H. Weiss weiter sich zu verreissen sondern nach bester besorgung er Jacob Reiff die Briefe an behœrigen Orten zu bestellen und selbst sich nach einer Antwort zu befragen.

"Wir sæmbtl. Alteste der beyde gemeine zu Philadelphia und Schibach

J. Diener, D. M. P.	Wendel Keiber
Pieter Lecolie	Deobalt Jung
Johann Wilm Rœrig	Christophel Schmidtt
Henrich Weller	Gerhart Inde Heven
Geo. Peter Hillengass	Georg Reiff
Hans Michel Frœlich	Georg Philip Dodder-
Michel Hillengass	er

sums of money as follows:

	Holland Guilders.
An Order of George Michael Weiss on Mr. John Leonhard Van Aston, of Rotterdam	750
Messrs. Charles and Isaac Behage, at Frankford-on-the-Main	750
The Reformed Dutch Congregation at Frankford	40
The Reformed French Church at Frankford	20
The Reformed French Church at Hanau	12
The Low Dutch Church at Hanau	4

"In the Summer of 1731, Mr. Reiff was in readiness to return. By arrangement between Doctor Wilhelmus, a Holland friend of the Reformed churches in Pennsylvania, Rev. Mr. Weiss and himself, Mr. Reiff invested the funds in his hands in merchandise. This course was deemed judicious and convenient, and likely to be profitable to the congregation. The goods were put aboard the Britania Galley, Michael Franklyn, master, at Rotterdam; as were also the clothing, effects, and provisions of Mr. Reiff. At this juncture, Doctor Wilhelmus thought proper to direct Mr. Reiff go to Dordrecht, where the synods of North and South Holland were in session. Mr. Reiff after attending to his duty returned with all possible haste to Rotterdam, but found, to his surprise and chagrin, that the Britania had sailed for Cowes, taking the merchandise and his personal effects as well. Cowes, on the Isle of Wright, was an English port of clearance for America. Here the duties were collected by customs and freight was received by the ship's owners. Mr. Reiff being separated from the property, and no money for duties having been provided the goods were landed and stored at Cowes. The vessel arrived at Philadelphia September 21, 1731. Mr. Reiff sailed for home the following year. In June, 1732, he reached Cowes, and made efforts to free the goods and take them with him, but, the wind being fair and his ship ready, there was insufficient time to attend to the required formalities at customs and to ship the goods, and he was compelled, most reluctantly, to pro-

ceed without them. Before doing so, he deposited with John Hope, an eminent merchant at Cowes, the sum of forty-nine pistoles, equal to £68, 12, 0, Pennsylvania currency, for duties and freight, and received Mr. Hope's promise to forward the property by the first opportunity.

"When Mr. Reiff reached Philadelphia his most serious trouble began. The entire transaction was beset with vexations and misunderstandings. The Philadelphia church officers were anxious to obtain the money, according to the amounts subscribed, ignoring or ignorant of the fact, that it had been converted into merchandise. Moreover, Mr. Reiff denied having received the money for subscriptions entered in the collection book before it was handed to him. Mr. Weiss, who would seem to have been the proper person to clear up the difficulty, had 'purged' himself of the case by making oath that none of the funds remained in his hands, and had gone to the Catskills, on the Hudson river, and assumed a pastorate.

"A suit was commenced in Governor Keith's court of chancery. On the 23d of November, 1732, upon the petition of John Diemer, Michael Hillengass, Joest Schmidt, Henrich Weller, Jacob Siegel, and Wilhelm Rœrig, of the Philadelphia congregation, a writ of ne exeat Provincia—forbidding him to leave the Province—was granted against Mr. Reiff. A Bill of Complaint was filed, and a bulky answer made thereto. The case lingered in this court for several years. February 22, 1734, by consent of counsel the writ of ne exeat was vacated, and Mr. Reiff furnished sureties in the sum of £400 current money of America, to abide by the decree of the court. This ends the record in this Court. But it did not settle the matter at issue. Apparently, the law was ineffectual as against Mr.

Reiff. The matter now slumbered for over twelve years.

"In 1746, Rev. Michael Schlatter was sent by Synods of Holland as superintendent of the German Reformed churches in Pennsylvania and Maryland. He was instructed to take up and adjust the matter in dispute with Mr. Reiff. September 21st was named for a meeting. Mr. Schlatter reported the result in these words: 'At the appointed time, I went with Mr, Weiss to the house of J. Reiff, to investigate his accounts of the money collected in Holland. I will not publish the particulars and peculiar circumstances of the case, but will lay them before the Reverend Synods, and only say here, that this disagreeable business was not disposed of till the beginning of the following year. Through the interference of four English gentlemen, who were chosen arbitrators, a settlement was finally made, and Mr. Reiff, after deducting his expenses, paid over to me £135 or 900 guilders, for which I am prepared to render an account.'

"Mr. Schlatter probably thought, as he reasonably might, that a speedy settlement would banish this unfortunate subject from the minds of the church people, and remove a stumbling block from his own path. But, instead, there was a fresh outburst of bad feeling in the German communities. Rumor again wagged its malicious tongues. One side angrily criticized Mr. Schlatter; another party vented its wrath upon Mr. Reiff, going so far even as to malign the good names of his brothers. Mr. Reiff and Mr. Schlatter were satisfied with themselves and with each other; but others, and some of them without interest in the matter, could not be content. To still the storm, Mr. Schlatter deemed it wise to publish the following in Sauer's Germantown newspaper:

ADVERTISEMENT.

"This serves as notice that in future no person shall take upon himself to offend the brothers Reiff and their families with unkind remarks and reproaches in connection with the much-talked of Collections, inasmuch as Mr. Jacob Reiff, immediately upon my arrival in this country, rendered an account in a becoming and orderly manner, and has settled the matter to my entire satisfaction, in which I am supported by the judgment of prominent and intelligent men who assisted me in bringing the subject to a conclusion; I have found him in this nothing other than an honest man and a friend, and I have no doubt that I can justify the disposition made of this controversy before the high authority of the Reverend and Christian Synods in North and South Holland.

MICHAEL SCHLATTER,
V. D. M.

October 16, 1746.

"The officers of the Philadelphia congregation claimed, in their suit at law, somewhat upwards of 2100 Holland guilders. Upon this sum fifteen years interest had accrued. There was much disappointment felt at the meagre outcome of 900 guilders from the settlement. Mr. Schlatter does not explain the disproportion between the amount claimed and the sum received. Some information is within reach, however, which helps to account for the seeming discrepancy. Mr. Reiff was promised, before his departure to Europe, eighteen pence per day, and traveling expenses* until his return; and, if our inference is correct, that, by the sailing of the Britannia in the Fall of 1731, before his return from Dordrecht to Rotterdam, he was compelled to remain in Europe during the winter of 1731-2, this item was necessarily largely increased. A house of worship for the Skippack Reformed congregation was erected, or in course of erection, upon the plantation of Mr. Reiff at the time he was induced to accompany Mr. Weiss to Europe;

*Sauer's Germantown Paper, February 1, 1751.

upon this he had made advances, amounting according to his statement to £150, and the moneys collected were in part to be applied to his reimbursement. Moreover, Mr. Reiff firmly disavowed having received more than 1576 guilders, as hereinbefore specified. The merchandise purchased with the church money in Holland, presumably, reverted to Mr. Reiff upon arrival at Philadelphia. Doubtless these items entered into the reckoning which, with the aid of four arbitrators, was patiently conducted at Mr. Reiff's house, in Salford; where a settlement was made the more difficult by the lapse of so many years and the indefinite understanding between the contracting parties. Thus, melted away, under a series of unfortunate yet legitimate circumstances, a portion of the generous gifts of the Reformed people of the Fatherland.

"Mr. Reiff, as is fully borne out by what has been said, was a man of enterprise and public spirit. Tradition, as well as the records, speak of him as a man in the lead of church affairs and business improvements in his locality. He is credited with the ownership of a number of slaves; and doubtless he did hold property of this description, as was the general custom of well-to-do farmers at that day.

"Adjoining the church on his premises there was a burying-ground, in which rest the remains of Gabriel Schuler, a pillar in the Reformed church in early times, and others of the neighboring people. At present however all marks of the graves have disappeared and the spot is a cultivated field. The date of the erection of the church edifice is involved in uncertainty; but it is surmised that it was built prior to the arrival of Mr Weiss, in 1727, and this supposition is strengthened by the well established fact that John Philip Bœhm began to minister among the German Reformed people in Skippack

about the year 1720. The title to the ground upon which the church was located remained in Mr Reiff. The demolition of the structure is given, definitely by James Y. Heckler, a local antiquary, as having occurred in 1743, during which year Mr. Reiff built a mill from the material in the church.

"Rev. Henry Harbaugh in June, 1854, visited the site of the old graveyard and church, and the mill, and painted this poetic and pathetic word-picture of the scene:

"'The spot which was once a graveyard, but can now scarcely be recognized as such, is on the west side of a large field. The fence which once enclosed it is long since gone. The field was at that time, covered with waving rye. The ploughing of the field has, from time to time, encroached upon the sacred precincts, so that the corners have been rounded off; and it now lies, like a small half-moon, along the fence. The soapstone gravestones are all broken; some pieces are still projecting above ground, but nearly levelled with the earth, while fragments are lying around, with letters and parts of names upon them. The largest number of letters we could find together, on any fragment, was—'schu.'

"'A most lonely and neglected spot is this ancient burial-place, but, on that very account, it is more sadly and solemnly interesting. The fence corners are filled with thorns, under which we found pieces of tombstones. A solitary Juneberry tree throws a feeble shadow upon the spot. The ground is covered with the many-leaved yarrow, the wild parsnip, the Canadian thistle, St. John's wort, cinquefoil, spots of white clover, solidago of golden rod, with here and there a lonely mullein, a bunch of wild cotton, and low bushes of the wild plum.

"'It was a bright and beautiful day when we stood on the spot. Around lay a most lovely

country, in all the hope and glory of June. The ear was greeted from all sides with the sounds of summer—the hum of bees, the song of the birds, and the voices of ploughmen, far and near. At a distance of about six miles south lie the Madetche mountains, and, still nearer, winds the Schippach through a beautiful valley. How frequently, however, while we lingered in this lonely grave-yard, was our mind and heart called from the Eden-like scenes which lay around to the lowly resting-place of the dead near us!

"'About two hundred yards east of the graveyard is the spot on which stood the log church. The site of the old church is at the edge of a woods, where is still to be seen something of a glebe, such as betrays a venerable place.

"'The logs of the old church were used in the erection of what is now Allebach's mill, on the Schippach, where they still form the walls of that old building. There the farmer-boy, when he rides on his wheat-bag to the mill, may still see the venerable, widely-hewn timbers which, one hundred and thirty years ago, formed the holy place in which his great-great-great grand-parents heard God's Word, offered their prayers and songs of praise, and received the emblems of our Saviour's broken body and shed blood.'

"Regarding the family history of Jacob Reiff considerable information is at hand.

"In the church book of the Lutheran congregation at Trappe, of which Rev. Mr. Mœhlenberg was pastor, is recorded: 'January 8, 1753, the aged widow Reiff, Jacob Reiff's mother, was buried at the Mennonite grave yard. Her age was ninety years eight months.'

"The decease of this aged woman was made by Pastor Mœhlenberg the subject of a portion of one of his letters to Halle, showing that the occurrence was one of great interest

to the German community of the region in which she lived. He wrote these words:

"In the same month, (January 1753), I was requested to officiate at the funeral of a pious widow who sank to rest in the Lord at the age of ninety years, who dwelt eight miles from New Providence (Trappe), and who was buried at the so-called Mennonite churchyard. She had been a long time in this country, had several esteemed married sons, of whom some professed the Reformed faith, while the others sought only the transitory things of this world, and a daughter who in a manner was friendly to the Evangelical (Lutheran) church. She remained during the recent years with her most intelligent and worthy son, and was by him maintained, as is right. During the first years of my presence here she resided with her daughter, heard diligently the word of God, and showed herself a worthy widow, lived retired, set her hopes upon the living God, made prayer day and night, albeit she was compelled to hear and see many blasphemous sayings and doings by which she was grieved and pained. However she did not fall in with these wrong doings, but remained faithful to God's Word and to prayer, until she went to live with her son, when she was enabled to pass her days more quietly and to make preparation for a blessed end. I visited her in her last dwelling place at her son's desire, and served her with God's Word and the Holy Communion. At her burial, her son, who could discern in others the good as well as the bad, testified with many tears, that she had been a pious widow, an instructor of her family in things spiritual, a peacemaker, and a model of godliness; and with this testimony the voice of disinterested friends was in accord, adding that she cared little for this wicked world and had been much affected by its influences. I took,

as appropriate to the circumstances, the ninth chapter of Ecclesiastes, from the thirteenth to the sixteenth verses: This wisdom have I seen also under the sun, and it seemed great unto me: there was a little city, and few men within it; etc. The elders of the Mennonite meeting premitted and requested, from neighborly friendship, that I should deliver the funeral discourse in their meeting house, which I did to a numerous and respectable gathering, and the surviving relatives made such loud lamentations under my words that I was very much disturbed. May the grace of God bestow a lasting blessing upon His Word.

"In a Sauer Bible, now in the hands of one of the family, is this entry: 'Jacob Reiff, the elder, was born November 15, 1698.' He died February 16, 1782, and was buried at the Skippack Mennonite meeting house, where his grave is marked by a stone, bearing the words: 'Jacob Reiff, gestorben den 16ten February, 1782, sein Alter war 83 Jahr, 3 monat und 1 tag.' From deeds given by Jacob Reiff we know that he had no wife on April 15, 1730, and May 16, 1730. In the year 1733, he married Anna ———, who survived him, and died October 28, 1788, aged seventy-nine years. The wife is also buried at the Mennonite graveyard in Skippack. Their children were:

"Jacob, born June 18, 1734, married Catharine Schneider; died February 25, 1816.

"Catharine, married and lived in Oley.

"George, born in 1740; married Elizabeth Hendricks; died January 24, 1808.

"Jacob Reiff, the younger, and Catharine Schneider were married; in August, 1756. They had seven children:

"Jacob, born August 31, 1757; married Mary Detweiler; died in 1847. He was a miller on the Wissahickon.

"John, born December 5, 1759; was twice married; died February 6, 1826."

Catharine, born November 8, 1761; married (first) William Price, and afterwards Joseph Harley. She died December 25, 1840.

George, born December 3, 1763; married April 7, 1784, Rachel Pawling. He died September 16, 1823.

Elizabeth, born August 16, 1769; married John Weber. She died September 16, 1825.

Anna, born August 21, 1771; married Joseph Detweiler. She died April 30, 1860.

Benjamin, born August 19, 1778; married, December 31, 1797, Anna Croll. He was a man of local influence, and a member of the State Senate of Pennsylvania for a number of terms.

Catharine Schneider, wife of Jacob Reiff, the younger, was born February 15, 1737; she died September 18, 1811.

George Reiff, son of Jacob Reiff, the elder, and Elizabeth Hendricks were married under a license issued February 15, 1764. Their children were six in number:

Abraham, born in 1766, married Elizabeth, daughter of Mathias Stauffer, of Lower Salford. He died in 1846.

George, born December 23, 1768; married Elizabeth, daughter of Garret Clemens, February 17, 1792. He died November 28, 1847.

Jacob, born in 1770; married, September 19, 1793, by Michael Croll, Justice of the Peace, to Sarah Clemens; died in 1853. He was a storekeeper in Skippackville. Sarah, wife of this Jacob Reiff, was born in 1774 and died in 1852.

Daniel, born May 28, 1773; married Mary Boyer. He died August 29, 1815.

Elizabeth, born November 11, 1775; married Christian Detweiler, of Franconia. She died April 14, 1860.

Joseph, born July 3, 1779;

married Elizabeth Bechtel; they had five children—Isaac, Geo., Susan, Elizabeth and Polly. He died January 9, 1830.

Elizabeth Hendricks, wife of George Reiff, was born February 15, 1764. She died in 1817.

JACOB HOFFMAN.

When Jacob Reiff sold one hundred acres of land to Lawrence Bingeman in 1730, where Abraham B. Alderfer now lives, they had to cut off a narrow strip containing thirteen acres on the northeast side of the tract in order to get a never-failing spring and space for a meadow on the tract, which was to contain just one hundred acres. By a resurvey this long, narrow strip was found to contain thirteen acres and forty-eight perches, when Jacob Reiff, Jr., sold it to Peter Boorse, May 28, 1788. That part of this strip which is located between Abraham B. Alderfer's and Godshalk Delp's lands, now belongs to Isaac Delp. Lawrence Bingeman put the first buildings where Mr. Alderfer now lives, and made a premises there. The barn that stood there fifty years ago was covered with tiles instead of shingles. The house that was there at that time most probably was the second one at that place. It was large and was built of stone. Mr. Bingeman did not live there over about three years when he died. Letters of administration on his estate were granted to a Dutchman named John Johnson. Though he in his own vernacular wrote his name Jan Janson. He sold this plantation at public sale according to due process of law on the 16th of August, 1733, to Jacob Hoffman, for eighty-five pounds. The widow, Anna Margaret had yet a small claim which he also paid and then owned the property. He lived there thirty-three years.

Soon after he lived here there was a petition presented at the court of quarter sessions

in Philadelphia, "in the tenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord, George the second, by the grace of God, King of Great Britian, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith," September 6, 1736, before Clement Plumstead and eight Esquires, Justices of the Peace for the said county, praying for a road from Isaac Klein's to Felix Good's mill. But it then appeared that the courses and distances in some cases had not been given correctly, and especially so was it the case with the distance across Jacob Hoffman's land. It was represented in the petition as going over his land thirty perches whereas by a review it was found to be the whole distance of one hundred and thirty-nine perches. It was also represented in the petition that the road was to accommodate the people going to the church, which was then standing, but by the same review it was found that the road would not be nearer than seventy-seven perches to the house of worship at the nearest place. It was then stated that the road leading to Samuel Morris' mill was near enough for the accommodation of the church. It appears by this review that Morris' road must have been located there by Mr. Morris already at that time, but it was not opened by a jury until 1765. The question arises where was Felix Good's mill? For an answer we will have to look at the course of the road and the question will be solved. The whole width of Jacob Hoffman's farm was one hundred and twenty-nine perches. But if the road was to come down from Isaac Klein's to meet the North Wales road which had been opened the previous year, some where near Shuler's gate, and then down in the said road to the line between Godshall Delp and William Keyser, then southwest on the line of Shuler's and Hoffman's lands to the corner of Shuler's land, then perhaps

several perches southeast; then southwest, say somewhere along where Henry R Landis' house and barn stands as the nearest place to the church, which is about seventy-seven perches across to where the church stood.

Considering then that Jacob Reiff at that time lived where Henry Houpt now lives, and his brother George Reiff lived where T. R. Tyson now lives, we have the course of the road as indicated leading toward the mill on the Skippack, now owned by Jacob Smith, as Good's mi l at that time. There was some opposition to the road, but it appears to me it would have made a very useful cross-road.

It is very likely that Jacob Hoffman belonged to that church. He came to Pennsylvania, October 2, 1727. Hoffman is a German name which in its signification is nearly equivalent to steward. His name appears in the tax list of Lower Salford in 1734. On October 31, 1742, he obtained a patent from the Provincial Goverment for his land. On April 27, 1760, he made his last will and testament in writing, and therein appointed his wife Barbara and Michael Yohe to be the executors. They sold the farm to Philip Stong, November 27, 1766.

Jacob Hoffman owned this property longer than any other man. Philip Stong who lived here after him owned it nearly thirty years. He lived here during the time of the Revolutionary war, and undoubtedly was visited by scouting or foraging parties when the army was encamped on the Skippack. At that time there was much fruit on this farm and it is said, there was a distillery here. Here Philip Stong raised a family of eleven children. He had at least two sons, Henry and Jacob, and daughters that my grandfather knew more about than I do. As there was much

fruit here, they had apple-butter boiling parties in those days as the old custom was, when the young people took the matter in hand and boiled apple-butter and "schnitzed" apples all night.

Afterwards Philip Stong removed to Worcester and his son Jacob occupied the farm. And on May 28, 1796, his parents conveyed this property to him for six hundred and fifty pounds besides the good will and love which they bore to their son. During the time that Philip Stong lived here he purchased the farm now owned by Godshall Delp and Issac Delp, which was then yet all in one tract, containing eighty-one acres. But in 1795, he and his wife Barbara sold this farm with a tannery on it to their son Henry. Jacob Stong then owned the Alderfer farm only six years when he and his wife, Christiana, sold it to John Reiff, March 24, 1802, for thirteen hundred and sixty pounds. The latter was a speculator and sold off two small tracts during the four years that he owned it. One tract containing about ten acres he sold to Frederick Alderfer. That now belongs to Herman Fogel and is occupied by his buildings. The other tract containing about twenty-nine acres he sold to Christian Stover. This now belongs to Michael Landes.

By selling off those tracts, John Reiff reduced this farm to sixty-four acres and 139 perches. He never lived here. His residence was down at his mill which is now owned by David D. Nyce. On April 1, 1806, John Reiff and his wife, Elizabeth, conveyed this farm to John Smith for 1080 pounds. The latter owned it only four years when he and his wife, Sarah, sold it to Jacob Krupp, for 1150 pounds, April 10, 1810. Jacob Krupp owned this farm six years when he and his wife, Mary, conveyed it to George Reiff, for $3827.25, April 1,

1816 The latter owned this farm twenty-one years, though, it is said, he lived here only eight years, he let it out to renters afterwards, who rather reduced it in value. During the time that he owned these premises he purchased ten acres of wood land from Dr. George Fry and wife. If I am not mistaken, these ten acres adjoined the farm, and about seven acres thereof now belongs to Henry Bean's farm. For on April 1, 1837, George Reiff and his wife, Mary, sold this farm containing seventy-four acres, to Tobias Mattis, and in 1838, Jonas Fox built the first house on a clear spot in the woods at Morris road, where Henry Bean's house stands. It was a small frame house built very temporary. I have not investigated this matter, but I think I am safe in saying that Jonas Fox purchased about seven acres from Tobias Mattis, in 1838, and immediately built a small house there.

In 1840 or 1841 Abraham S. Alderfer purchased this farm from Tobias Mattis and wife, and now after forty-six years he is still living there, though his son, Abraham B. now owns the premises. In these forty-six years this farm has been greatly improved and all the buildings have been rebuilt, much larger and better. Besides that several tract of land have been aded thereto, and several small tracts sold off.

DIELMAN KOLB.

Another early settler in this township was Dielman Kolb. The date of his first purchase I have not been able to ascertain, but it is probable that he settled here co-temporary with John Scholl. He was a persecuted Mennonite preacher who came as a fugitive to Pennsylvania. His first purchase was made by a patent for one hundred and fifty acres, but the date is not known. His second purchase for two hundred and twenty-five acres with the usual allowance of six per cent for roads and

highways, was made January 4, 1721. This tract adjoining the first on the north west, was purchased from Derrick (or Dirk) Johnson. He is also called Dietrich Johnson.

On October 12, 1681, "William Penn, of Worminghurst, in ye county of Sussex, Esq.," granted to William Bacon, of Juner Temple, 5000 acres of land "in ye province of Pennsylvania." Besides the consideration therefor, he was to pay a yearly quit-rent of one silver shilling for every one hundred acres thereof as a kind of tax, or revenue, amounting annually to fifty shillings.

Thirty-seven years later, on February 20, 1718, William Bacon conveyed those 5000 acres of land to Humphrey Murrey and John Budd, of the city of Philadelphia. On June 5, 1719, Richard Hill, Isaac Norris and James Logan, commissioners of property granted a warrant to Murrey and Budd, directing Jacob Taylor, surveyor general, to survey for the said party 1920 acres as part of 5000 acres, as in and by the said warrant. Then, on April 5, 1720, they sold five hundred acres of it to Derick Johnson, and by so doing a certain tract was laid out for him. Beginning at a corner of John Ledrach's land, and thence by Dielman Kolb's land northeast two hundred and four perches to a black oak at a corner of said Dielman Kolb's land; then northwest seventy-eight perches to a post; thence by Andrew Ledrach's land southwest fifteen perches to a post; thence by the same northwest one hundred and eighteen perches to a post; thence southwest by a line of trees one hundred and eighty-eight perches to a post; thence southeast by vacant land sixty perches to a black oak, a corner of John Ledrach's land; thence by the same southeast one hundred and thirty-five perches to the place of beginning, containing two hundred and twenty-five acres with the usual

allowance for roads and highways. This same tract was afterwards conveyed to Dielman Kolb, January 4, 1721, for forty-seven pounds and ten shillings.

In the first year of the reign of King George, the second, of Great Britian, April 2, 1728, Dielman Kolb purchased of Nicholas Scull and Abigail, his wife, one hundred and seven acres of land adjoining his other tract, for thirty-seven pounds and nine shillings. This deed recites that William Penn is dead and that his commissioners of property, Edward Shippen, Griffith Owen and Thomas Story by a certain grant or patent under their hands and the great seal of the province, dated, "ye ninth day of ye sixth month (August), 1703, for the consideration therein mentioned," granted to Hannah Price, wife of David Price, five hundred acres of land in the county of Philadelphia, under the yearly quit-rent of five English silver shillings, or the value thereof, on the first day of the first month in every year, forever. Hannah Price perhaps never saw her land, and, in some way, and at some time, not distinctly mentioned, transferred her tract to Nicholas Scull, who ordered a resurvey of the land, when it was found that this tract had been located mostly in the bounds of the German company's land. Whereupon Mr. Scull obtained a warrant from the commissioners of property, dated, December 5, 1727, authorizing him to have surveyed for himself, five hundred acres, in the said county of Philadelphia. By virture of the said warrant there was surveyed for him on March 29, 1728, the following tract containing one hundred and seven acres. Beginning at a post in a line of Andrew Ledrach's land; thence by the same and vacant land northwest sixty-seven perches to a black oakin a line of Gerhart Clemens' land; thence by the same southwest seventy-

four perches to a black oak; thence by the said Gerhart Clemens' land northwest forty perches to a post; thence by land lately laid out to Hugh Roberts southwest one hundred and fourteen perches to a post in a line of Rees Williams' land; thence by the same southeast one hundred and seven perches to a post; thence by Dielmam Kolb's land northeast one hundred and eighty-eight perches to the place of beginning. Two days after this tract was surveyed, it was conveyed to Dielman Kolb. Part of this tract is now occupied by the village of Lederachville. On June 4, 1731, Dielman Kolb from purchased fifty acres of land John Nagalee and Catharine, his wife, residents somewhere in the county of Philadelphia. It appears that on August 15, 1682, William Penn, of Worminghurst, in the county of Sussex, England, granted to John Millington, of Shrewsberry, in the county of Salop, baker, and to his wife, Mary, five hundred acres of land in the province of Pennsylvania His wife, Mary died first, then it all accrued to him by right of survivorship. Then John Millington made his last will and testament in writing and devised the said tract to Mary Hughs, Martha Wilks, Damarosa Wilks, Mary Giles, and her husband Samuel Giles, and Ann Hughs. All these heirs then conveyed the said tract to a merchant, otherwise called a practicer in physick, in the province of Maryland, named Moydecai Moore, on the 16th of December, 1714 Some time afterwards Mr Moore died leaving an only son and heir, named Richard Moore, who with his wife sold the said tract to Ralph Asheton, of the city of Philadelphia, September 10, 1729. This Ralph Asheton and his wife, Susanna, on the 9th of December, 1730, granted a conveyance for the one half of five hundred acres, or two hundred and fifty acres to John Nagalee. This John Nagalee and his

wife, Catharine, then granted to Dielman Kolb the one-fifth of two hundred and fifty acre, or fifty acres. June 4, 1731, for £28. This was the last tract purchased by Dielman Kolb, and this tract of fifty acres appears to have been a remnant, and was of irregular shape, along the south-eastern end of his great tract. It was about the time of his last purchase that he sold fifty acres of his land out of the north-western corner. By a survey made by David Shultze for Andrew Ziegler, Sr., son-in-law of Dielman Kolb, May 7, 1767, it appeared that after selling these fifty acres to Gally Heffelfinger, he still had remaining five hundred and fifty-nine acres and eighty-eight perches. If my readers will follow me, we will now take a walk around Mr. Kolb's great tract of land. Our starting point will be in a public road fifty or sixty perches northwest of Lederachville, then going southeast along that road from the place of beginning down past Abraham K. Freed's, long known as Kinsey's place, one hundred and ninety-seven perches; then along the said road northeast sixteen perches; then again southeast along the said road two hundred and ten perches to a disputed corner between Abraham Hallman and Peter Gargas; then northeast eighty-five perches to the middle of Morris' road; then southeast thirty-five perches to a stone in Peter Gargas' field; then southwest in the middle of a public road two hundred and twenty-four perches to a corner in said road near William Kinsey's residence; then northwest twenty-eight perches; then southwest seventy-seven perches to a corner; then northwest four hundred and fifty-four perches to a stake. This line has been mostly obliterated, though it extends (part of the way), along a public road recently opened. At the upper end along this line, along the

Branch creek, Dielman Kolb sold those fifty acres to Gally Hefflefinger. From this upper corner we will go northeast one hundred and fourteen perches to a corner in a line of Gerhart Clemens' land; then by the same southeast forty perches to a corner of said Clemens' land; then northeast by the same eighty perches to the place of beginning. It will thus be seen that Dielman Kolb, of Salford, whose name appears on the last page of "The Bloody Theatre, or Martyrs' Mirror," was a man of means, and the owner of a large tract of land. In 1728, the great road from Goshenhoppen to Skippack, was laid out through his land. A mile stone, dated 1739, is still standing there. In 1829, there was a Dielman Kolb who immigrated into Pennsylvania, and antiquarians have generally supposed he was the Dielman Kolb, of Salford, whose name appears on the last page of the "Martyr's Mirror," but that is a mistake Dielman Kolb was not a young man when he settled here in Salford. His residence was about three-fourths of a mile southeast of Lederachville, on the east side of the road. The property now belongs to David Benner, of Philadelphia. It appears probably that Dielman Kolb was not a very young man when he was married, or if he was twice married he had no issue living by his first wife. He was married to the widow Snavely. She had several children by her first husband, but only one, a daughter, by her second husband, Mr. Kolb. Elizabeth, was the name of both the daughter and mother. Their daughter and only child was married to Andrew Ziegler, son of Michael Ziegler, of Skippack. They then had four children, three sons and one daughter. The sons were Dillman, Michael and Andrew. The daughter's name was Catharine.

It is said Dielman Kolb had three brothers, namely, Henry,

Martin and Jacob. The two last named lived in Skippack, in the vicinity of Lucon.

After purchasing these four tracts of land and owning them as one great tract a few years, Mr. Kolb sold to his step-son, Jacob Snaveley, from the city of Manheim, in the dominion or principality of the Prince Palatine, of the Rhine, in High Germany, merchant, two hundred and fifty acres of his land, October 10, 1733, for fifty-eight pounds, eighteen shillings and four pence. Mr Snaveley then built a house and barn and made a plantation where Dillman Bean now lives. There was a line cut straight across the whole tract somewhere near the present residence of Henry Godshall, and the upper part then contained two hundred and fifty acres. But some time after conveying this large tract of land to Jacob Snaveley, the latter died, leaving an only child, a son, Mathias Henry Snaveley as his heir. But it came to pass some years later that his child also died, intestate and without issue, when the property descened to Jacob Snavely's brother, Isaac, and his wife, Catharine, of Bethel township, Lancaster County, Pa. The latter sold this tract to Andrew Ziegler, son in-law of Dielman Kolb, January 4, 1752. That is the way it came back again, but the matter was not settled there, because one hundred and fifty-nine pounds, six shillings and four pence, were still claimed by Dielman Kolb and his heirs. Over three years this matter was left in an unsettled condition and could not, under those circumstances, be settled to any satisfaction. Then Andrew Ziegler, who had purchased the property obtained a writ of *fieri facias*, directed to Samuel Morris, High Sheriff of the city and county of Philadelphia, who after due notice sold the property at public sale, to Michael Ziegler, son of Andrew Ziegler, in September, 1755, for £382.

Then Andrew Ziegler, son-in-law of Dielman Kolb, paid Isaac Snaveley a balance of £130 in money for his interest therein.

The name of Dielman Kolb, or Kulp appears in the list of taxable inhabitants of Salford, in 1734, when he was rated on 150 acres of land, having sold 250 acres to Jacob Snaveley the previous year. But Snaveley's name does not appear in the tax list of 1734. He seems to have been overlooked or favored. Dielman Kolb was a Mennonite minister, and a man of influence in their church. He appears to have been prominent in the affairs of that denomination of Christians, and to have been noted for his religious zeal. He was very intimate with Henry Funk, a minister and bishop, of the Mennonite faith It was through the perseverance and zeal of these two men that the Mennonite congregation in Salford was organized in 1748.

The propriety of having T. Jans Van Braght's "Bloedigh Tooniel" translated from the Dutch into the German language, had been a matter of consultation among prominent members of the church for some time, since it was then already feared that war might break out and the young members might not be steadfast to the principles of their non-resistant profession. It was therefore considered necessary to have a book for them to read that would remind them of the faith and steadfastness of their forefathers in the principles of the church. Much could be said of the trouble they had until they found a way to have the book translated and published in the German language, but I will omit all that and merely say that about the close of the year 1745 they were successful in finding a place to have the book translated and published in German. That place was at Ephrata, on the Cocalico creek, in Lancaster county, Pa., where a dissenting portion of the Dunkard church

had established themselves under Conrad Beisel. They kept the seventh day Sabbath, and had introduced monastic institutions. They lived single as monks, friars and nuns.

Here in this quiet valley they found a place to have their "Bloedigh Toonie" translated and published.

To see that the work was faithfully performed, they appointed Dielman Kolb, of Salford, and Henry Funk, of Indian creek, under whose supervision the book was published in German.

From this we infer that Dielman Kolb must have had a good education as well as Henry Funk, who was the author of several religious works. Apparently, they both must have been familiar with the Dutch as well as the German language, and to say the least, they both were smart men.

The names of Dielman Kolb, Martin Kolb and Jacob Kolb, appear on a petition to Governor Gordon, May 10, 1728, asking for relief against what they had suffered from the Indians, who had fallen on the back inhabitants, about Falkner Swamp and Goshenhoppen. This petition is represented as coming from the inhabitants of Colebrookdale, but the forty-seven names which are on it are nearly all familiar, and are known to have been residents of Salford and Perkiomen townships.

It may be said of Dielman Kolb that he lived an eventful life. In the first place being a Mennonite, he was persecuted in his native land, and fled with others to the forests of Penn. After crossing the perilous ocean he settled down in the quiet forest where he endured many privations as was the lot of all the early settlers. A generation grew up around him and, as he was a religious man, his heart yearned to see the rising generation gathered into the church.

It was during the declining

years of his life that the congregation in Salford was organized, and it was his prayer that many souls might be gathered into it.

On the eighth day of July, 1748, Dielman Kolb made his last will and testament in writing. But it appears that he lived yet nine years longer, for his will was not proven before April 30, 1757. His witnesses were Robert Jones, Martin Kolb and Jacob Kolb. His executors were his own widow, Elizabeth Kolb, and his son-in-law, Andrew Ziegler. He also nominated his loving and trusty friends, Henry Funk and John Ulrich Berger, as trustees over his will to see that the provisions thereof were carried out. It was a custom then to appoint trustees over a will, but they would be as useless now as the fifth wheel in a wagon. He devised fifty acres of his land to his grand-son, Dillman Ziegler, to be cut off the whole length across his tract, bordering the tract purchased by his step-son, Jacob Snaveley. But as Snaveley died and the whole affair was settled before Dielman Kolb died, Andrew Ziegler then purchased those fifty acres from his son, Dillman, and in later years divided his large tract in quite a different way. As there was only one child a will would scarcely have been necessary, had it not been for making abundant provision for his widow. He also gave two pounds and ten shillings "to be disposed to such pious uses as ye congregation or meeting of ye Dutch Menonists, in Salford, aforesaid shall think fit." He also gave the like sum for alike purpose to the Mennonite congregation in Skippack. He gave to his step-son, Mathias Snaveley, "ye sum of five shillings," to be paid by his executors in case he (Snaveley) should come into this province and should demand the same. He bequeathed to his grand-daughter, Catharine Ziegler, ten pounds in money, after his death, and ten pounds more

within two years after the death of his wife. His widow was well provided for in the house and in the barn, and on the plantation, but how long she had need of those provisions is not known.

THE ZIEGLERS.

On May 7, 1767, Andrew Ziegler, son-in-law of Dielman Kolb, had David Shultze to resurvey his great tract of land and to divide it for his three sons. Mr. Shultze then made three drafts of Dielman Kolb's land. The first one showing the size and shape of all the tract combined, as it was in 1731, also showing the shape and size of each tract separately. He then made another draft showing how it was divided, immediately after Dielman Kolb's death, in 1757. The upper part containing 250 acres, which had been sold to Jacob Snaveley, Andrew Ziegler purchased from Samuel Morris, High Sheriff, September 3, 1755. Bordering this tract, was a strip thirty-eight perches wide through the midst of the whole tract, containing fifty acres, which Dielman Kolb devised to his grandson, Dillman Ziegler.

This tract was sold by the latter to his father, Andrew Ziegler, and a deed was given for it in 1757. The remainder of the tract which Dielman Kolb devised to his daughter, Elizabeth, wife of Andrew Ziegler, contained yet 254 acres and 108 perches. By a third draft is shown how Andrew Ziegler divided his lands to his three sons. Beginning at a stone, a corner in a public road, near Ledrachville; then down the same road 159 perches to a corner; then southwest eighty-nine perches on a line separating Abraham K. Freed's land from Anthony Gargas; then northwest eighty-eight perches to a corner in the Skippack road; then up the said road sixty perches to a corner; then northeast forty perches to the place of beginning, was a farm con-

taining sixty-five acres and ninety perches, now belonging to Abraham K. Freed, which was cut off for Michael Ziegler. Then running a line southeast through the tract they cut off yet 124 acres and sixty-eight perches more for Michael Ziegler. This land is now contained in the farms of Anthony Gargas, Peter Gargas, Abraham Haliman and the lot now belonging to Delps boys and John Sherley's lot. This gave Michael Ziegler one hundred and ninety acres for his share. Opposite to Michael's tracts, they cut off two tracts for Andrew Ziegler, including the old homestead. The one tract contained 139 acres and forty perches, and the other tract fifty-nine acres and 129 perches.

This then gave to Andrew Ziegler Jr., 190 acres in two tracts for his share. The remainder containing 179 acres and eighty-nine perches was all in one tract and was given to Dillman Ziegler for his share. This was the upper portion of the great tract and now includes the farms of Dillman Bean, Michael O. Ziegler, part of William Ziegler's farm and part of A. T. Kulp's farm, besides a number of lots in the village of Ledrachville. By another draft made by Henry Schweitzer, surveyor, November 15, 1782, at the request of Andrew Ziegler, Sr., it is shown that the line between Michael and Andrew had been changed, giving the former more land, while Andrew, Jr., received less in the tract which contained the homestead, but it appears by other conveyances, that he in turn received the farm now owned by Abraham K. Freed, which at first was surveyed for Michael. Andrew Ziegler, Sr., the father, lived to be quite an old man. He divided his lands among his three sons, but did not give them conveyances therefor immediately. Besides his three sons, he had a daughter, whose name was Elizabeth,

wife of Abraham Detweiler, a legal heir whose right was also to be respected. He and his wife, Elizabeth, transferred the messuage and 179 acres and 108 perches of land, formerly the premises of Jacob Snavely, to their son, Dillman, for a certain consideration, August 17, 1770. Fifteen years later, on June 2, 1785, Dillman Ziegler purchased thirty-four acres and forty perches, from Andrew Ziegler who then owned the farm now owned by Abraham K. Freed. Dillman Ziegler had six children, three sons and three daughters. The sons were Andrew, Dillman and Jacob. The daughters, singularly enough, were all married to Godshalks. The first was Elizabeth, wife of Godshalk Godshalk, the next was Hester, wife of Garret Godshalk, and lastly, Barbara, wife of Jacob Godshalk. The last named was the mother of Jacob Z. Godshalk, of Telford, and Elizabeth was the grand-mother of Rev. Moses Godshalk, of Schwenksville.

There were so many of those Zieglers bearing the same name that to discriminate between them, they applied nicknames to each other; as, "Little Mike," "Smith Mike," "Smoke Mike," "Small Andrew," "Little Dillman," "Taylor Abraham," "Storekeeper Jake," etc.

Michael O. Ziegler, of Ledrachville, is in the fourth generation from Dielman Kolb; his father's name was Dillman, and his grand-father was the Dillman who received the farm, containing 179 acres, where Dillman Bean now lives, of which I have spoken. Many of the Zieglers of the third generation, and some of their descendants were great speculators; they cut up their lands into lots and small tracts, which they had heired from their fathers, and sold them to strangers, while they themselves removed to other places. Andrew Ziegler, of the second generation from Dielman Kolb, *i. e.*,

his grand-son, was a preacher in the Mennonite church, during the time ot the Funkite schism. He was married to Catharine Lederach, and had four children; namely, Elizabeth, wife of Abraham Tyson, mother of the late Andrew Tyson, of Lower Salford; Dillman, Michael and Andrew. Andrew Ziegler, their father, was born March 14, 1737, and died October 26, 1811, aged seventy-four years, seven month and twelve days. His wife, Catharine, was born September 3, 1739, and died July 1, 1810, aged seventy years, nine months and twenty-eight days. After the death of their father, Dillman Ziegler, his son, owned the old homestead, and Michael, his brother, also owned a large portion of the tract. The residence of the latter is now owned by Jacob Benner. Andrew Ziegler, their brother, was twice married, each time to one of Bernard Fryer's daughters. He was a weaver by trade, and during the latter years of his life he lived on the lot now owned by Garret Keyser where there was a weaver shop in which he worked the treadles and made the shuttle fly. His brother, Michael, bore the appellation of "Little Mike." The latter had two sons, Abraham and Henry, and was the grandfather of "mine host." A. K. Ziegler, of Harleysville.

As already stated, Dillman Ziegler purchased the farm where A. K. Freed now lives from Andrew Ziegler, his father, containiug at that time thirty-four acres and forty perches, June 2, 1785. On May 2, 1795, Dillman Ziegler and his wife, Catharine, transferred to their son, Jacob, the same tract; but he was an uneasy person, and removed to Vincent township, Chester county. In 1804 he and his wife, Catharine, sold the same premises to his brother, Andrew Ziegler. He was known as "Small Andrew." If I am not mistaken he was the founder of Zieglersville, in Frederick

township.

On April 3, 1810, he and his wife, Mary, sold the same messuage and sixty-seven acres and forty-seven perches of land to John Johnson, of Perkiomen township. One year later Mr. Johnson and his wife, Sarah, sold the same property to Jacob Kinsey, of Rockhill township, Bucks county. He was married to Ann, daughter of Jacob Alderfer, of Lower Salford. From 1811 to 1883 this farm remained unchanged in the Kinsey family, during a period of seventy-two years. All the buildings which are there were put there by the Kinseys, though there were buildings there previously, and those which are there have recently been repaired and improved by Mr. Freed. There was much fruit on that farm forty years ago, when the large cider mill which was there was kept running day and night by neighbors making cider in the fall of the year. In 1851 four acres on the other side of the road, on which is located the old burial ground of the Ledrach family, were added to this farm by purchase from Michael Shoemaker and I. W. Wampole, assignees of John Ledrach and wife, by Jacob and John Kinsey.

The farm owned by Jacob Benner belonged to the Ziegler family until 1871. This had been the residence of "Little Mike" and of his descendants until the said year The farm belonging to Henry Godshalk was cut out of the above farm in 1829, for their son, Abraham Ziegler, and belonged to him until the time of his death about the year 1865. In 1829 the farm now owned by David Benner, of Philadelphia, including the lot belonging to Henry Minninger, was owned by Dillman Ziegler a son of Andrew, the Mennonite preacher. In what year the farm was sold to a stranger I can not say, but recollect it was occupied by Solomon Long about the year 1845.

The farm owned by Dillman Bean was owned by three Dillman Zieglers in succession. First by Michael O. Ziegler's grand-father, second by his father and lastly by his brother, Dillman, who died there in 1856, The farm was then purchased by the present owner the same year.

By taking a glance at the tax list of 1776 it will be seen that the name of Michael Ziegler is entirely omitted, and that Andrew, his father or brother, was rated for 320 acres, and Dillman, his brother, for 230. On the draft made by Henry Schweitzer, November 15, 1782, the name of Michael Ziegler does not appear. His residence had been where Anthony Garges now lives, but it is probable that he either died or removed to parts unknown between the years 1770 and 1776. There are none of his descendants in these parts at this day to the best of my knowledge. I am informed traditionally that the old Ziegler who owned the Garges farm had taken to drinking very badly, and then his father cut out the lot of twelve acres, now belonging to Delp's boys, and put his drunken son there and deprived him of the farm. How true this traditional story is I cannot say. The lot belonged to the Delp family since I have any recollection of it. Fifty acres of the Garges farm, now belonging to Peter Garges, were sold by Andrew Ziegler, Sr., to Abraham Detweiler, of Worcester, January 12, 1785. After owning it six years the latter sold the same tract to Godshalk Godshalk, August 27, 1791. Six and a half years later, January 1, 1798, the latter sold twenty-five acres to Andrew Ziegler, the weaver, and the other twenty-five to Edward Flynn, who then lived where Abraham Hallman now lives.

On November 20, 1794, Andrew Ziegler, Sr., (minister), and his wife, Catharine, con-

The late Jesse Ziegler, miller, of Salford Station, was a grandson of "Emill Andrew" the founder of Zieglersville.

Jesse Ziegler, a son of John Ziegler, of Lower Salford, is a grandson of Dillman Ziegler, the last Ziegler who lived on the farm now belonging to David Benner, and was a brother to "Thick Andrew" the weaver, mentioned on Page 130.

Rachel Pawling wife of George Reiff on page 112 was a daughter of John Pawling who lived near the Perkiomen above Grater's Ford where John Landes now lives, where he then owned 500 acres of Land. John Pawling's wife was Elizabeth De Haven. They had four children, all daughters, namely, Deborah, Rachel, Rebecca and Ann.

The following is an abstract of the will of John Pawling of Perkiomen Township, dated October 12, 1789. His wife Elizabeth, his son-in-law Jacob Pannebecker, his son-in-law John Hiester and his son-in-law, William Swaddle were the executors. He had three negro slaves, one, a woman, named Teen who was to be free after the death of his widow: the other two, boys, one named George and the other Robin, who were both to be free when they became 21 years old.

5th. His daughter Deborah Swaddle was to have the use of 250 acres of Land during her life-time, but after her death it was to go to her children.

6th. His daughter Rachel Reiff was to have the use of 250 acres of land during her lifetime, but after her death it was to go to her children.

7th. His daughter Rebecca Lynch was to have the use and profits arising from a lot and buildings on Second street in the city of Philadelphia, during her lifetime. Afterward it was to go to her heirs.

8th. His two grandchildren, Nathan and Elizabeth Pannebecker, children of his deceased daughter, Ann, were to have two hundred pounds each; and all the remainder of the estate was to be divided equally between the children of his daughter Hannah, wife of John Hiester. The witnesses to the will were Isaac Jacobs, George Boyer and William Boyer.

The will was confirmed by a jury of court, April 25. 1791.

veyed a messuage and 101 acres and 134 perches of land to Andrew Ziegler, Jr. He owned the property fourteen years, but in the meantime he removed to Frederick township. He was the same man who owned the farm above, now belonging to Mr. Freed, and ~~undoubtedly~~ was the founder of Zieglersville. He was "Small Andrew." He was not a little man, but slim and tall.

On the 14th of April, 1810, Andrew Ziegler and his wife, Catharine, of Frederick township, sold the same messuage and ninety-six acres and twenty-one perches of land to Jacob Garges and his mother, Jocobina Garges, widow. The mother's name undoubtedly was not Jocobina, but Sabina, for that name is still in the family. Many mistakes were formerly made in writing names, for many names were strange to the writers.

We will now close our sketch of the Zieglers, and merely yet say that Ziegler is a German name which in English is Tyler. We have done much better on this sketch than we had expected to do on account of the various individuals having the same names. Many of them have been entirely omitted, but four Andrews and four Dillmans have been mentioned. Jacob Garges was only eighteen years old when he bought this farm, but his mother stood by him and he succeeded remarkably well. In later years perhaps in 1835 he purchased the other tract of twenty-five acres from Edward Flynn, and the other tract of twenty-five acres from Andrew Ziegler. The farm owned by Anthony Garges has new belonged to the Garges family nearly seventy-seven years.

The residence of Edward Flynn was where Abraham T. Hallman lives. He was an Irish-American Schwenkfelder, who was generally known as "Neddy Flynn." He was married to Maria, daughter of Christopher Wiegner, and had no issue. He

was a stonecutter by trade, and many of the old headstones in the grave yards, in several township around us, were cut by him. He died in 1836, aged eighty years, and left by will a portion of his estate to the Sshwenkfelder society. Apparently he must have lived there forty years. There was a one-story log house there containing two rooms with an addition of one room built of stone at the east end. There was also a well-sweep there yet in my recollection, and a log barn. In 1838 the lot containing about fourteen acres was purchased by David Zimmerman. He lived there about fourteen years. Since then it has had various owners. Andrew Ziegler, Sr., reserved a watering place on the lot owned by John Sherley, and a road a perch wide from his residence now owned by David Benner, of Philadelphia, down to the spring, and another road of the same width coming down from Anthony Garges' farm.

In consequence of this watering place being there that corner now owned by Mr. Sherley was not sold, and in time became escheated to the government, and consequently had to be purchased from the government in order to obtain possession of it, which was done about the year 1854, if I mistake not the time.

Since writing the former —it being already in type—we have investigated this matter concerning Michael Ziegler, and find the aforementioned tradition to be only too true. His father, Andrew Ziegler lived to be a very old man; apparently he must have been no less than ninety years old when he died. He experienced much sorrow and trouble with his dissolute son. He made his last will and testament in writing, dated September 10, 1793, which was proven May 8, 1797, and therein appointed his two sons, Dillman and Andrew, his executors. But it appears that Dillman died before his will went into execu-

tion and hence Andrew became the sole executor. His will, which was a very long one, was witnessed by Michael Ziegler, Abraham Ziegler and Henry Schweitzer. From this we learn that his estate was to be divided into four equal shares, and the directions are given in the will how to proceed. At that time Michael was a widower, and Jacob Urweiler lived on the lot, containing ten or eleven acres, now belonging to Delps boys. This was to be the residence of Michael Ziegler as long as he lived, for his disobedience to his father, and in case he would marry again it could not be the residence of his widow after his death. He was to live there free of rent all his remaining days, but could not rent it away. The lot and his share were altogether in the hands of the executor. The executors were directed to pay all the debts which Michael had contracted previous to July 7, 1785, out of his share, but all debts which he made after the said day were not to be paid.

The land now belonging to Peter and Anthony Garges was to be sold at public sale to pay his debts, and the lot whereon Michael was to live was to be sold after the death of the latter, and all the remainder of the money belonging to Michael's share was to be divided equally among his children.

JOHN LEDRACH.

On the southwest side of Dielman Kolb's great tract, and less than half a mile from his residence was the residence of John Ledrach, whose name appears in the list of taxpayers in 1734. On September 10, 1717, a warrant was granted to David Powel for "three thousand acres on or near the branches of the Parkyowming creek." Much of this grant was sold in Lower Salford. On September 2, 1718, one hundred acres thereof adjacent to Dielman Kolb's and partly to Jacob Kolb's lands was granted to John Ledrach. It is

mentioned in this deed that it was granted in the fifth year of the reign of King George, of Great Britain. It is recited in the narrative of Dielman Kolb that on October 12, 1681, Wm. Penn granted to William Bacon, of Juner Temple, 5000 acres of land in the province of Pennaylvania. Thirty-seven years later, on February 20, 1718, William Bacon sold those 5000 acres of land to Humphry Murray and John Budd, of the city of Philadelphia. On March 26, 1720, Murray and Budd sold 1500 acres, as part of those 5000, to James Steel, of the city of Philadelphia. On December 20, 1728, James Steel and his wife, Martha, conveyed to John Ledrach fifty acres of the said land adjoining his former tract. It is mentioned in this deed that it was granted in the second year of the reign of King George the second.

John Ledrach lived here about thirty years. He applied for a patent for his whole tract of one hundred and fifty acres, which was granted to him, August 22, 1734, and was sealed with the great seal. The boundaries of this tract are thus given: Beginning at a corner of Dielman Kolb's land; then extending southwest by vacant land and Jacob Kolb's land one hundred and forty-five perches to a white oak; thence northwest two hundred and two perches to a post; thence by Rees Williams' land northeast forty two perches to a post; thence by vacant land southeast forty-four perches to a post; thence by a line of marked trees northeast one hundred and three perches to a post in a line of Dielman Kolb's land; thence by same southeast one hundred and fifty-eight perches to the place of beginning.

John Ledrach was a Mennonite, and when a stranger looks over his farm he is made to wonder that he could not find a nicer location on his undulated fields to put his buildings than

where he did. When John Ledrach grew old he made his last will and testament in writing, dated August 17, 1748, which was proven December 12 following. He appointed his son, John Ledrach, Jr., and his son-in-law, Jacob Groff, fuller, of Upper Salford, to be his executors, and Andrew Ziegler and Jacob Shoemaker trustees to see that the provisions of his will were carried out. These four men jointly sold the farm at public sale, January 17, 1749, to George Weyker, for £500. His name is also written Weykert and Weykard. In the deed which those four men gave the two executors, John Ledrach and Jacob Groff, are represented as being of the first part, then the trustees, Andrew Ziegler and Jacob Shoemaker, as being of the second part, and the purchaser, George Weyker, as being of the third part. In closing the deed the two executors, Ledrach and Groff, signed their names to it, and the two trustees Ziegler and Shoemaker, signed their names as witness. George Weyker owned this farm about eleven years, when he died intestate, apparently in 1759, leaving one son and five daughters. George Weyker, Jr., of Frederick township, the only son, then took out letters of administration and had the farm appraised by an order of the orphans' court. Their valuation was £400. Then Mr Weyker took the farm at the appraisement as he had a right to do, and had the court to confirm it to him. No sooner was this done than he sold the farm containing still 150 acres to Henry Denich, for £530, as confirmed by articles of agreement.

He was the same man who at one time owned the farm now belonging to Solomon Wasser, which he had purchased from Anthony Hallman and wife in 1742, and owned it until 1745, as recited in the sketch of John Vincent Myer. After selling this tract he purchased the farm

now belonging to Frank Nice, of Lower Salford, which then contained forty-nine acres and 126 perches, from John Philip Bœhm, of Whitpain, and his wife, Mary, December 28, 1745 and owned it until May 2, 1752, when he and his wife sold it to Charles Swartz.

When Henry Denich bought this farm from George Weyker he saw that there was still a little money in it, and therefore sold it to Christian Croll, of Lower Salford, also by articles of agreement, for £540. Shortly after this transaction Henry Denich died. It appears they then moved slowly in proceeding further, but on May 26, 1760, George Weyker, of Frederick township, and the heirs of Henry Denich, all of Lower Salford, namely, Ann Margaret Denich, widow, John Denich and Margaret, his wife, and Jacob Denich and Mary, his wife, granted and confirmed a deed to Christian Croll. It appears probable that this Christian Croll was the grandfather of Michael Croll, a noted Justice of the Peace of Upper Salford during the latter part of the last century and the beginning of the present.

It is very probable that this Christian Croll was the ancester of all the Crolls in these parts. It is also very probable that he was the same Christian Croll who arrived in Philadelphia, August 19, 1729, in company with Jacob Beiff, who then returned from a visit to Europe. We will leave this matter for some one else to investigate.

Mr. Croll then owned that farm only five years when he and his wife Barbara sold the whole premises to Jacob Godshalk of Lower Salford for £800. May 1, 1765, thus gaining two hundred and sixty pounds in five years. Neither could Mr. Croll nor his wife write their names, they merely made their marks. The name of Christian Croll appears in the tax list of 1734, and his residence then

was on the other side of the township on what is now the Krupp farm, which he sold to Jacob Krob several years later. But where his residence had been between 1740 and 1760, I can not say.

Jacob Godshalk was a son of Godshalk Godshalk, whose residence was on the Skippack where James Markley now lives, as related in the narrative of Christian Stauffer. He still wrote his name Jacob Gaetschalck in accordance to the Hollandish idiom; for his father wrote his name Gaetschalck Gaetschalck. Jacob Godshalk owned this farm nine years, but in the meantime removed over into Perkiomen and Skippack townships where some of his descendents still live. On March 2, 1774, he and his wife Helena for the love and affection which they bore to their son Godshalk Godshalk, and £850 in money, conveyed and confirmed this plantation unto him.

This farm then remained in the Godshalk family until April 1, 1885, exactly one hundred and twenty years, It is now owned by Frederick Seitz. On March 27, 1784, Godshalk Godshalk purchased of Andrew Ziegler, Sr., ten acres and twenty-four perches of land lying adjacent to his other land. He then built a house and other buildings there, and made himself a residence, moved into it, lived there and farmed a small portion of land. On May 29, 1798, he and his wife, Sarah, conveyed to their son, Jacob, 128 acres and 118 perches of land. On May 1, 1815, when his wife was dead, Godshalk Godshalk sold to his son, Jacob, the aforementioned premises containing thirty-six acres and fifteen perches of land, including those ten acres purchased from Andrew Ziegler, for £1046, 14s, 4½d. Then three years later, May 30, 1818, Jacob Godshalk and his wife, Barbara, transferred to their son, Dilman, the above mentioned premises con-

taining sixty acres and 110 perches of land for $3996.86. Eight acres thereof were woodland disconnected from the other. These premises Dilman Godshalk sold to Frederick Seitz about the year 1866 and it still belongs to him, though it is occupied by his son. On April 10, 1847, Jacob Godshalk and his wife, Barbara, granted to their son, Jacob Z. Godshalk, 102 acres and forty-five perches. It being the greater part of 128 acres and 118 perches, for $4140. Jacob Z. Godshalk then owned this plantation until April 1, 1885, when he and his wife sold it to Frederick Seitz, though it was then reduced to ninety-six acres. Mr. Seitz now owns the two premises.

From the road on the southeast side of Mr. Seitz's land over the hill down to the other road, and from the line of what was Diehman Kolb's, land now owned by Benjamin Nice and others, over to the township line, are yet one hundred and twenty acres in Lower Salford now owned by Jacob Reiff, Benjamin Ziegler, William Keyser, Garret Keyser and others.

These one hundred and twenty-six acres were purchased from David Powel by two individuals. Seventy-three acres thereof were purchased by Henry Bailey, who afterward transferred the tract to Jacob Kolb. The latter afterward applying for a patent, paid seven pounds and six shillings which were due the provincial government. The remaining fifty-three acres were purchased by Nicholas Scull, December 7, 1721, and afterward sold to Jacob Kolb. These two contigious tracts comprising one hundred and twenty-six acres, were a part of 3000 acres granted to David Powel by a warrant dated September 10, 1717. Mr. Kolb obtained a patent for the whole tract, August 9, 1735. The boundaries therein are thus given: Beginning at a post in a line of Bebber's township, at

a corner of Michael Ziegler's land; thence on the said township line northwest one hundred and four perches to a post; thence by vacant laad and land of John Ledrach northeast one hundred and eighty perches to a corner of Dielman Kolb's land; thence by the same southeast one hundred and thirteen perches to a post; thence southwest seventy-five perches to a post; thence northwest nine perches to a post; thence by Michael Ziegler's land southwest one hundred and thirteen perches to the place of beginning, containing one hundred and twenty six acres. This patent was granted to Jacob Kolb "in the ninth year of the reign of King George the II, and in the eighteenth year of our government, August 9, 1735." This was the provincial government of John Penn, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn.

The residence of Jacob Kolb, whose name appears in the tax list of 1734, in Perkiomen, then Bebber's township, was where Abraham Reiff now lives. Mr. Kolb then owned all that land between those two roads, on each side of the tract just described, over to the Swamp road going up through Lucon. In later years his tract was divided lengthwise and was owned by two of his sons, Dilman and Henry. Dilman owned the old home and the land the whole length of the tract from the Swamp road along the "Long Lane," as it was formerly called over to what is now Benjamin Nice's farm. Henry owned the upper tract the whole length above. The first house built where William Keyser and his son, Henry, live, was erected there by Daniel Custer about the year 1840; and the one up on the Long Hill now owned by Benjamin Ziegler, was built by George Reiff a few years later. Other houses were built along there about the same time and some since

COLLA HEFFLEFINGER.

Colla Hefflefinger was a resident of Lower Salford in 1734, and his name appears in the tax list of that year. He is also called Galley Hefflefinger, and his residence was where Abraham L. Ziegler's now is. On April 4, 1695, William Penn granted to Daniel Wharley, of London, 3000 acres of land in the province of Pennsylvania. Some years later old Daniel Wharley died, and his oldest son, Daniel Wharley, Jr., sold those 3000 acres to a Welshman named Rowland Ellis, by deeds of lease and release, dated April 2d, and 3rd, 1724. On May 21, 1725, a warrant was granted by Richard Hill, James Logan and Robert Ashton, commissioners of property, for the survey of 300 acres as part of 3000 acres, which was surveyed to Rowland Ellis on the 27th day of March, 1725. Those 300 acres represented as "near Perkiomy," Mr. Ellis sold to another Welshman named Rees Williams, an innholder of the city of Philadelphia, by deeds of lease and release bearing date May 5th and 6th, 1726.

The boundaries of this tract are thus described; Beginning at a marked white oak at a corner of John Ledrach's land; thence by the same and by Tilman Kolb's land and vacant land southwest 318 perches to a post; thence northwest 160 perches to a post; thence northeast by John Pawling's land and vacant land 318 perches to a post; thence southeast 160 perches to the place of beginning, containing 300 acres. Tilman Kolb undoubtedly should be Martin Kolb, for it was his land.

Their deed is recorded in deed book I, vol. 5, page 345. Over two years later, on the 14th of August 1728, Rees Williams and his wife, Elizabeth, conveyed to Colla Hefflefinger one hundred and twenty-five acres as part of three hundred acres. This deed is recorder in the office at Norristown in deed

book I, page 180 and 181. It was not recorded before 1785. On the 11th of December 1745, Colla Hefflefinger and his wife, Catharine, conveyed to their son, Henry Hefflefinger, all that tract with all the improvements thereon. Their deed is recorded in the same book on page 182 and 183. It is recited in the narrative of Dielman Kolb that in 1703, William Penn granted to Hannah Price, wife of David Price 500 acres of land in the county of Philadelphia. And further, that it was transfereed to Nicholas Scull, who obtained a warrant for the survey of the same, dated December 5, 1727. By virtue of the said warrant there was surveyed to him February 20, 1728, a certain tract containing "thirty-seven and a half acres near the Perkiomy," as part of 500 acres. Then, on March 21, 1729, Nicholas Scull and his wife, Abigail, conveyed the said tract to Henry Pannebecker.

After owning this land sixteen years Mr. Pannebecker sold it to Henry Hefflefinger by a deed dated December 11, 1745. Henry Hefflefinger also purchased a tract containing fifty-one acres from Dielman Kolb and his wife, Elizabeth, December 7, 1745. These three tracts comprised two hundred and thirteen and one-half acres, for Mr. Hefflefinger, who, twelve years later, purchased another small tract from the heirs of Dielman Kolb. After owning this tract about forty years, Henry Hefflefinger and his wife, Catharine, sold this great plantation to Martin Boger, of Lower Salford, by a deed bearing date June 7, 1785. This deed is closely written and measurest wo feet and ten inches in length and twenty-six inches in width. I think I am safe in saying it is the largest deed in the township. At the time of making this conveyance Mr. Hefflefinger was a resident of Vincent township, Chester county. It is a name that has

entirely disappeared from the township. Neither Henry Heffleflinger nor his wife, Catharine, could write their names. The deed was acknowledged before Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg, Esq., one of the judges of Montgomery county, June 9, 1785. Martin Boger owned this plantation over twenty years until he died here, January 17, 1806. After his demise two of his sons-in-law, Abraham Markley and Michael Wagner, took out letters of administration as already stated in connection with Nicholas Schwenk, in the History of Harleysville, But how it came that I made a mistake in the number of acres belonging to Martin Boger I can not say. For instead of seventy-eight acres, as there stated, there were 220 acres. Though I am informed that is the number of acres the farm now contains.

On April 26, 1806, Abraham Markley and Michael Wagner, administrators of the estate of Martin Boger, deceased, sold the decedent's large plantation containing two hundred and twenty acres and forty perches to Abraham Ziegler, of Lower Salford. He was known as "Tailor Abraham," and was the grandfather of Abraham L. Ziegler, the present owner. At that time his great tract was bounded by lands of Henry Weirman, Christian Bergey, Abranam Clemens, Dillman Ziegler, Godshalk Godshalk, Jacob Godshalk, Martin Kulp and Isaac Markley.

Soon after the purchase of this large plantation Abraham Ziegler sold off several tracts or parcels of his land along the lower or southeast side to a successful advantage to reduce his debt. This land, at least the greater part thereof, is now contained in the farm of William S. Ziegler.

A few years later, on April 1, 1811, he purchased sixty acres from Daniel Price and Margaret, his wife, of Towamencin. The latter had purchased this land

from Christian Weirman only one year previously. Those sixty acres of woodland lying adjacent to his other land, extended down along the hill and across the Branch creek at some places. This land extended southwest along the road just beyond the residence of William Y. Garges. About the year 1836 Abraham Ziegler built a small frame house near the corner of his land where William Y. Garges now lives, for Elizabeth Detweiler, a widow, who was a relative to Mr. Ziegler; he then put five acres of land to it and sold it to her. She then died there several years later, and after her death the lot was sold to a German whose name was Joseph Haverstock; he lived there perhaps ten years and made some improvements. The lot was purchased by Samuel Garges about the year 1855 and one or more small tracts were added thereto, besides making great improvements in the buildings. It is now owned by his son, William. In 1840 Abraham Ziegler built an oil mill which was also provided with a pair of stones for chopping grain on the Branch creek. When this mill was built it was found necessary to purchase a small strip of land additional containing one acre and fifteen perches from John Johnson and wife. This was part of sixty acres which the latter had purchased from John Zieber and Jacob Markley, administrators of the estate of Abraham Benner, deceased, April 18, 1831. When the oil mill was built they also built a small one-story stone house with basement, on the hill, now belonging to Joseph Conver, for Michael Johnson, the oil miller. Some people say the oil mill was built by Jacob Ziegler, old Abraham's son, but that is not correct, as we will show presently, though he may have been instrumental in the purpose and may have done much labor for it, but it was not his, for on the 31st of March, 1845, Abraham

Ziegler and his wife, Barbara, sold to their son, Jacob, a certain oil mill and nine acres and seventy-five perches of land. Then Jacob Ziegler built a saw mill to his mill, and on April 20, 1850, he and his wife conveyed these mills and land to Christian Bergey. The latter owned this mill property seventeen years when, on July 23, 1867, he conveyed the same to his son, David Bergey, the present owner. A residence consisting of a house, barn and other necessary buildings were added to the lot by Mr. Bergey. But in the meantime the gearing belonging to the oil mill was taken out, when raising flax had ceased and no oil was manufactured here. The residence of Henry P. Reiff and other houses on the hill there were all built since 1840.

After the death of Abraham Ziegler the farm belonged to his son, Jacob, who owned it until the time of his death. It was then purchased by his son, Abraham L. Ziegler, the present owner This farm has now belonged to the Ziegler family nearly eighty-one years.

NICHOLAS HOLDERMAN.

The name Holderman is written very differently. We find it as above and otherwise, as Holdeman and Halteman. The subject of this narrative was a resident of Lower Salford in 1734, and his residence was where Frank Tyson's now is. It has been related in the narrative of Colla Hefflefinger how Rees Williams, an innholder of the city of Philadelphia, came in possession of three hundred acres of land in Lower Salford in 1726. As the country was fast settling up at that time Rees Williams and his wife, on August 13, 1728, sold one hundred and twenty-five acres to Nicholas Holderman. He probably was the ancester of all the Holdemans and Haltemans in eastern Pennsylvania if not in the United States.

He owned this farm nearly

fourteen years, but in the meantime removed to Chester county, two of his sons, at least, remained in Lower Salford. On February 12, 1742, Nicholas Holderman, of Chester county, and his wife Elizabeth, conveyed their farm to their son, Nicholas Holderman, Jr. Their son, Christian, having purchased the farm now owned by Frank Wagner in 1735. The Holdermans were Mennonites, and in later years one of Christian's sons, whose name also was Christian, a resident of Upper Salford, was a preacher in that sect. He died in 1833, in his ninetieth year. Nicholas Holderman, Jr., owned that farm, containing 125 acres, twenty-three years when he and his wife, Elizabeth, sold it to Isaac Markley, October 28, 1765. Mr. Markley lived on this farm till he was old, but on October 14, 1811, he and his wife, Sarah, sold their plantation to their son, Henry. Isaac Markley died in less than a year after selling his farm, on May 19, 1812, aged within five days eighty-three years, but his wife, Sarah, survived him until December 7, 1823, when she died aged ninety years and nine months. Henry Markley owned this farm seventeen years when he died here, October 26, 1828, aged sixty-nine years, three months and nine days. But his wife, Elizabeth, survived him until April 22, 1845, when she died aged eighty-five years, seven months and twenty days. After the death of Henry Markley his farm descended to his only daughter, Sarah, wife of Abraham Benner, by right of inheritance. Abraham Benner having taken out letters of administration, settled the estate. It is asserted by the decendants of Abraham Benner that when their father owned the farm it contained two hundred and two acres. They say Henry Markley had already purchased an adjacent tract from some one, which appears very probabe.

Upon further investigation it appears that about the year 1810 Henry Markley purchased sixty acres from Christian Weirman. This land extended back to the Branch creek, and after the death of Abraham Benner it was sold by his administrators to John Johnson, April 18, 1831.

Eight acres and fifteen perches had been purchased by Abraham Benner, and were sold to his widow by his administrators, John Zieber and Jacob Markley, April 18, 1831. Abraham Benner died August 11, 1829, but his wife, Sarah, survived him until May 24, 1847 It was about the year 1842 when the widow Benner's barn was struck by lightning and burnt away. By the time of her death the farm was considerably reduced in size by selling off several tracts, but what then remained was sold by the heirs at public sale to Abraham Landis, December 26, 1848. He lived there about thirty-three years, and died there April 11, 1881, when the farm was sold a year later to Mr. Tyson, the present owner.

On the southwest side of this farm, in Skippack township, where the late Benjamin Tyson lived was the Kemper farm, at first owned by John Kemper and by his descendants after him until about the year 1830. John Kemper was a deacon in the Dunkard church in the colonial period, and his descendants after him belonged to the same church. The family burial ground was carefully walled in, but it is becoming sadly out of repair. In 1734 when John Kemper lived on that farm he was reported as a resident of Salford, but it was a mistake made by some one. The farm at present belonging to Joseph Benner is not an old place. It is composed of land cut out of two tracts, part of it from Martin Kulp's farm, and part from the Holdeman or Benner farm. The house on the premises accidently took fire and burnt away,

April 2, 1883. It was owned by Mr. Benner's father-in-law, Garret Detweiler, during a period of about twenty-five years before it was purchased by Mr. Benner. Some years ago this isolated place was facetiously called the *Hase Schwam*—Rabbit Meadow. It is located on the Long Run, a small stream flowing westward to the Perkiomen.

The buildings at the road above now owned by Abraham R. Landis were put there by Elias Benner about the year 1843. The land belonging to it was cut out of the Benner farm, and so was also the land belonging to the lot at the road west from Mr. Landis, which was also built by Elias Benner. In 1726 the land on the other side of the road belonged to John Pawling, of Perkiomen, but it afterward changed owners, and for a long time belonged to one or the other of the Weirman family. In 1735 there was a tract of land extending back over the hills to the Branch creek belonging to Henry Fry. It is probably now contained in the farm of Charles T. Johnson.

The residence of the latter very probably was built by Christian Weirman in the latter part of the last century. The farm recently owned by Daniel Pannepacker, now belonging to Charles T. Johnson, formerly belonged to the Weirman family. It was probably the residence of Henry Weirman. It is said there was yet a large tract of land extending westward over the hills toward the Perkiomen which belonged to the Weirman family, and some of it still belongs to one or more of them.

HANS WEIRMAN

Lived back near the Branch creek in 1734. He was the ancestor of all the Weirmans in Montgomery and Bucks counties. His residence is now owned by John D. Alderfer. It is just on the other side of the Salford line in Skippack township. At the time of the Revolutionary war his son, John, lived there when

Washington and his army encamped at Pannepacker's mill. John was a bachelor and a tory at that. At that time a detachment of the army encamped near his residence. There were portions of the army encamping at several places in Upper Salford also. John Weirman had a considerable quantity of grain in store which the officers of the army wanted to buy, but he was very stingy with his grain and would not sell any. Some of the soldiers were suspicious of him and one of them sent a ball into his house. It went whizzing through two doors and through two apartments in the house, imbedding itself in the wall opposite. After that he was willing to sell his grain. When I was a lad I saw those bullet holes in the same old doors yet.

Hans Wyerman (so the name was originally written) was a member of the Mennonite church and was reported as a resident of Salford in 1734. Apparently he must have been a large landholder. He sold one hundred and fifty-four acres in two tracts to his son, John, a short time before his death, which occurred in 1747 or 1748, but did not transfer it. It appears the children knew that John was to have the farm and knew also at what price, but the conveyance had not been made; and after his death the children gave John his conveyance, which is dated November 16, 1748. His will was dated December 5, 1746. He had seven children, namely, John, who was a bachelor; Sophia, wife of Michael Weirman, of Hatfield; Henry, was a resident of "Perkesy," and whose wife was named Catharine; Jacob was a resident of Hatfield and was a weaver by trade, he had a family also; the name of his wife was Margaret; Christian was a resident of Lower Salford, his wife's name was Elizabeth; Mary Weirman was married to Rudolph Lapp, of Hatfield, who was a tailor by

trade; Elizabeth Weirman was also a resident of Hatfield; she was a spinster and was therefore unmarried. John Weirman apparently must have prospered for we find that by the year 1766 he had increased his acres to the number of two hundred and thirty. His farm was owned by one or the other of the family after him until about the year 1826, when it contained yet 167 acres and was purchased by Jacob Garges at $23 per acre, and was afterward owned by his son, Samuel Garges, and was sold by him to Horatio Heuston, of Chestnut Hill, about the year 1855. The farm now belongs to John D. Alderfer, of Skippack.

CHRISTIAN HOLDEMAN.

The farm now belonging to Frank Wagner was long known as the Holdeman farm. Christian Holdeman was a son of Nicholas Holdeman, Sr., and a broth r to Nicholas Holdeman, Jr. He did not live on this farm in 1734, but purchased several tracts and parcels of land in 1735, as will be recited presently. It has been related in the narrative of Dielman Kolb how Humphry Murrey and John Budd, of the city of Philadelphia, obtained 5000 acres of land, February 20, 1718. On March 26, 1720, they sold 211 acres and 104 perches thereof to James Steel, of the city of Philadelphia. It appears that nearly all of this tract, which was included in those hills and the Branch creek, was purchased by George Rough. The latter was a single man when he purchased this land, and was still so on February 10, 1735, when he conveyed seven acres and sixty perches to Christian Holdeman. But he was afterward married and the name of his wife was Mary, when they conveyed 168 acres and 100 perches to Chris-Weirman, on the 5th day of September, 1757, and then four days later, September 9, Mr. Weirman and his wife, Elizabeth, conveyed six acres and

seventeen perches to Christian Holdeman. These several small parcels of land were only outside additions to Mr. Holdeman's farm. Undoubtedly he had purchased the main tract before he purchased the first small tract from George Rough, but had not received his conveyance therefore, and very probably had possession of it. The main tract was purchased from James Steel and his wife, Martha, of the city of Philadelphia, and their conveyance bears date July 23, 1735. The boundaries are thus given: Beginning at a corner of John Weirman's land; thence by the same northeast one hundred and sixty perches to a post; thence by the same land northwest fifty-three perches to a white oak; thence by the same southwest thirty-one perches to a post; thence by Weirman's other land northwest eighteen perches to a post; thence by vacant land northeast ninety-seven perches to a post; thence by land of Jacob Enger southeast one hundred and twenty-three perches to a post; thence by vacant land southwest two hundred and twenty-six perches to a post in a line of Henry Fry's land; thence by the same northwest fifty-two perches to the place of beginning, containing 100 acres, being part of 150 acres which the "Honorable John Penn, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, by their patent dated July 15, 1735, did grant unto James Steel." This shows that James Steel owned at least two tracts here. The conveyance granted to Christian Holdeman was acknowledged and confirmed by Charles Brockden, Esq., master of the rolls of the Province of Pennsylvania, and Recorder of Deeds, before John Lawrence, Justice of the Peace, September 25, 1765, and was witnessed by Christian Krassold and William Parsons. It has just been recited that James Steel received his conveyance or patent July 17, 1735, and that will account

for the reason why Holdeman did not recieve his conveyance sooner from Steel. Undoubtedly Christian Holdeman put the first buildings on the Wagner farm in 1735. The seven acres and sixty perches of meadow land which he purchased from George Rough, February 10, 1735, were located along the Branch creek; beginning at a chestnut oak; thence southwest seventy-four perches to the North Branch of the Parkyomomie; thence up the middle of the said Branch by several courses thereof seventy-seven perches to a stone corner; thenee northwest eight perches to the place of beginning. Thus are the boundaries given and they show where the land lay. This conveyance was witnessed by Yellis Cassel, Huppert Cassel and Robert Jones, and was signed by George Roh, in German. This deed was acknowledged on the affirmation of Robert Jones before John Bull, February 27, 1765. There was another small tract of land containing sixteen acres and ninety-three perches which Christian Holdeman purchased in addition to his farm lying adjacent to it This purchase was made from Hans George Boochard, April 1, 1741.

I never could understand rightly how this man's land was located. He is rated on 100 acres in Salford in 1734, but where all that land was I can not say. We find his name variously written, thus: Boochard, as in the tax list and in the first deed. On the draft his name is as above. Then we find it Boocher, Bogard, Bogardus and Boger. If my notes are correct a warrant was granted to George Bogard, of Philadelphia, March 8, 1732, and there was surveyed to him on the 16th of the same month of that year a small tract containing sixteen acres and ninety-three perches of land. It was bounded by lands of Jacob Enger, George Clouser, Jacob

Eckman and James Steel. A patent was granted under the lesser seal to George Bogard, August 2, 1735, in the ninth year of the reign of King George the Second. On the great wax seal covered with thin paper is stamped in a circle the following motto: "Truth, Peace, Love and Plenty. 1732." This is on one side, and on the other side in a circle are stamped "John, Thomas and Richard Penn, Governors of Pennsylvania." Inside of the circle is the King's seal with "Mercy and Justice." It is possible that Hans George Boochard had another tract of 100 acres in Upper Salford for which he was rated in 1734. Or perhaps it extended along the hills partly in both Upper and Lower Salford. It appears very probable that this Hans George Boochard, Bogard or Boger, was the ancestor of Martin Boger whose residence was where Abrham L. Ziegler now lives, and whose descendants reside in the vicinity, even on the Holdeman farm.

Christian Holdeman remained on this farm and was the owner of it nearly fifty-five years. He and his wife, Catharine, who was still living, sold their farm to Jacob Wagoner, of Upper Salford, and gave a very lengthy and descriptive conveyance, dated December 5, 1799. Mr. Wagner owned 100 acres in Upper Salford in 1776.

In 1776 Christian Holdeman was rated on 130 acres of land, and that was the number of acres he had purchased in his four tracts or parcels of land added together. He and his wife lived to be very old people. I cannot say much about his family and will leave that for some one else to investigate. He had a son, Christian, who was a resident of Upper Salford where he owned 100 acres of land. He was a minister in the Mennonite church, and this latter Christian had among his sons one whose name was Abra-

ham, who removed to Vincent township, Chester county; he also was a Mennonite minister. He is said to have been quite a fluent speaker; much more so than his father.

About the middle of the last century there was a Christian Holdeman in Franconia township, about half a mile south from the Franconia Mennonite meeting house, on the farm now belonging to Jonas Moyer. Who he was I cannot say, but presume he belonged to the same Holdeman family.

Concerning the farm purchased by Jacob Wagner we will have little more to say. At some time after belonging to the Wagner family they had it resurveyed all in one tract and found it to contain 140 odd acres. After Jacob Wagner ceased to own the property it belonged to his son, Michael, many years.

About the year 1834 the latter built that house for his son, Jacob, where Jacob Bergey now lives, and separated about sixty acres of land from his farm to the new premises. Other small tracts were added thereto since, insomuch that Jacob Bergey has quite a large farm. The Wagner farm has been considerably reduced in size from time to time by selling off small tracts, and other buildings have been erected in recent years on those lots. Michael Wagner lived to be quite an old man, he died June 1, 1880, aged eighty-two years, three months and twenty-two days. His son, Frank, owned the farm since his father's demise, and he is already well advanced in years.

There were several early graves on this farm, apparently of children, but it was not known who they were, and in recent years they have been obliterated and the plow now goes over them. Frank Wagner spared them as long as he did the farming, but since he has retired others have turned the glebe over them. This farm has now

belonged to the Wagner family eighty-six years.

HANS ULRICH BERGEY.

There seems to be an opinion among some of the descendants of Hans Ulrich Bergey that the name at first had not been Bergey, but Van Burg. This certainly is an error. In looking for the name Bergey in Prof. I. D. Rupp's "Thirty Thousand Names," it is very probable that the name Van Burg may be found, but that is no evidence in this matter. The descendants of Hans Ulrich Bergey are undoubtedly not aware that their ancestor was in Pennsylvania at such an early day as he really was. The absence of the name Bergey on the first deed or conveyance in the family, only shows the ignorance of the conveyancer and nothing more. The first that we find of his name on record is on a petition to Governor Gordon dated May 10, 1728, and undoubtedly he put his name on that document himself, written in German Hans Ulrich Borge, having two dots over the o, which, in the German language, softens that vowel to the diphthong œ, thus Bœrge. On the same petition we find the names of John and Paul Freed, written thus, Frot, the o having two dots over it the same as in Bergey. Not alone this, but we find his name as we go along in various records of the past, as witness to deeds and wills, written Hans Ulrich Berge. Though his children fell into the error, and he himself at last yet, of writing their names Barkey, but after all the changes they came back again to Bergey. Apparently he was married already before 1728, and lived perhaps in Upper Salford or on the farm which he afterward purchased. He was one of the charter members, if they may be so called, of the Mennonite church in Salford in 1738, and is there represented as a resident of Salford; the township not being divided then yet. When he purchased his

farm on the Branch creek in 1746, he is represented as a resident "of near Parkyomy creek." Probably he lived on that farm fifteen or twenty years before he bought it. That may be the most reasonable conclusion. It is not known who his wife, Mary, was, but there is some reason to believe she was a daughter of Cerkert Clemens.

Hans Ulrich Bergey purchased the farm on which he lived, now belonging to William Wendler, William Bergey and others, from Hugh Roberts and wife, March 16, 1746. In this conveyance the name Bergey does not at all appear, it is only Hans Ulrich, but as this was written by the conveyancer it proves nothing more than his ignorance of the purchaser's name.

It appears that three different warrants under the lesser seal, dated August 17, 1700, had been granted by Edward Shippen, Griffith Owen and James Logan, commissioners of property, to John Roberts of Merion township, for 250 acres of land in right of several persons and the same John Roberts, a Welshman, still continued to accumulate warrants for land, insomuch that in his lifetime he became duly entitled to 750 acres, and being so entitled he made his last will and testament in writing bearing date September 3, 1722, and did therein devise and bequeath to his only son and heir, Robert Roberts, all the lands and lots belonging to him in the Province of Pennsylvania, with all the testator's rights and privileges. He also nominated his said son, Robert, and daughter, Elizabeth, to be joint executors of his will. Some time after making his will the said John Roberts died still entitled to all his lands. It then came to pass that Robert Roberts, and Sidney, his wife, by a certain conveyance bearing date February 6, 1725, transferred all his warrants or claims for 750 acres of land still unsur-

veyed in the province of Pennsylvania, to Hugh Roberts. In pursuance of said warrants, or some of them, there then was surveyed on March 14, 1726, as part of 750 acres, "a certain tract of land on Parkyomy creek," beginning at a black oak at a corner of Garret Clemens' land; thence by Rees Williams' land southwest 104 perches to a post in a line in the said Rees Williams land; thence by the same northwest thirty-eight perches to a corner; then southwest by the same land forty perches to a post; thence northwest 262 perches to a post; thence northeast 144 perches to a post; thence southeast by Garret Clemens' land 300 perches to the place of beginning, containing 250 acres. This same described tract of land was purchased by Hans Ulrich Bergey from Hugh Roberts and Rachel, his wife, of Merion township, March 16, 1746. The most reasonable conclusion to be drawn is that he lived on this farm where William Wendler now lives some years before he received his conveyance. John Roberts and Hugh Roberts were both Welshmen, who came from Wales and settled in Lower Merion. The former over 200 years ago, the latter came later. After being the owner of this farm Hans Ulrich Bergey lived here yet nearly seventeen years.

Since writing the above we have examined an old conveyance of an adjacent tract dated 1735, which confirms our former opinion, proving that Mr. Bergey then already lived on that farm and is therein represented as the owner of the soil.

He probably took sick suddenly and then made his last will and testament in wrtiing bearing date November 9, 1762, which was proven December 11th, ensuing, and therein appointed his two oldest sons, John and Michael, to be executors. At the time of his death some of the children were still under

age. Eleven children and a disconsolate widow were left to mourn their loss. Mary, the widow was provided for in the will with money, furniture and other things as the custom then was to provide. The names of the children were John, Michael, Isaac, Samuel, Mary, Elizabeth, Christian, Abraham, Anna, Fronica and Salome. John was to have ten pounds more than any of the others, because he was the oldest son. Michael was to have the plantation, then containing yet 160 acres, for £600 in money. Samuel was yet single and had remained at home working for his father, and at that time was in his twenty-seventh year. He was to recieve £8 of money for his salary for each year since he was past his lawful age. Mary was to have £10 in advance in consideration for her work for her father after her lawful age. Otherwise, or with these exceptions the children were all to receive equal shares.

It is claimed by the descendants of Hans Ulrich Bergey that he was the ancestor of all the Bergeys in Eastern Pennsylvania, and of some who have emigrated to other parts of the world.

John Bergey, the oldest son, lived in Upper Salford where he apparently was quite successful, for we find in the assessment of that township in 1776, that he owned 180 acres of land and a grist and saw mill. He was the grandfather of Rev. David Bergey, of Lower Salford, who is now in his eighty-third year. His father's name was Jacob. Michael Bergey, the second son of Hans Ulrich, received the old homestead, but did not own it long, for in 1776 we find the farm belonging to his brother, Christian, who was twenty-one years of age when his father died. We are informed that when Michael received the farm he was still unmarried and remained so, but some time after his father's death he became deranged and finally

died. After he was insane and could not attend to his affairs it was found necessary to sell the farm by the Sheriff, which also was done, and his brother, Christian was the purchaser. Isaac Bergey, the third son, lived in Franconia and his numerous descendants at this day, in the German districts, are generally members of the Mennonite church Abraham Bergey, the youngest son lived in Limerick township, but in later years removed to Shamokin. Samuel Bergey, one of the sons, it is said, also lived in Franconia. One of the daughters was married to a Landis, they lived in Franconia; one to a Lapp, of Bucks county, and one was married to Henry Garges, and they afterward removed to Doylestown. Elizabeth married a man by name of Walter, they lived in Germantown and had no issue. It is said one of the daughters died single.

Christian Bergey then owned the farm until the time of his death in 1819; he was born there and died there. When his father died the plantation was represented as containing 160 acres, but there must have been a good many more, in all 205. Christian Bergey made his last will and testament in writing dated April 3, 1813, and therein devised one hundred acres of land to his son, Christian, with all the buildings and improvements on the old homestead. He had previously put buildings and improvements where William Bergey now lives and cut off 105 acres thereto for his son, Jacob. Christian Bergey, son of Hans Ulrich, was born June 13, 1741, and died March 24, 1819, aged seventy-seven years, nine months and eleven days. He always lived on the same soil. His wife, Mary, born November 25, 1742, died October 28, 1808, aged sixty-five years, eleven months and three days. They had eleven children, namely; Abraham, Mary, Jacob, Margaret,

Barbara, Catharine, John, Anna, Sarah, Christian and Elizabeth. Abraham lived in Limerick township, Mary married Philip Stearly, they also lived in Limerick; Jacob Bergey received 105 acres of land with buildings and improvements from his father where his grandson, William Bergey, now lives. He had only one child whose name was Christian, the father of Jacob, William and David. Jacob Bergey, Christian's father, died before his son was of age, but the son heired the father. Jacob's two sisters, Margaret and Barbara, remained single and lived to be old maids. Catharine married Christian Holdeman, of Bucks county. John Bergey was a resident of Lower Salford and a minister of the Mennonite church: he was married to Elizabeth Overholtzer and had six children: he died December 1, 1865, aged eighty-two years, three months and thirteen days. His wife, Elizabeth, survived him yet nearly five years; she died August 30, 1870, aged eighty-two years, two months and five days. Anna Bergey married Abraham Holdeman; he was a minister in the Mennonite church and lived in Chester county, as already related in the sketch of Christian Holdeman. Sarah Bergey married Joseph Butterwick, father of Moses Butterwick, of Lower Salford, from whom we received much interesting information.

Elizabeth Bergey, the youngest of the family, married Jacob Tyson; they lived in Upper Providence. Christian Bergey, the youngest son, received his father's plantation, which is now owned by William Wendler. He lived there and died there in 1852. They had eight children After the death of Christian Bergey his wife, Mary, and his son, Aaron, took out letters of administration and sold the farm containing yet ninety-eight acres and eighty-nine perches of land with buildings and improve-

ments at public sale to Michael Alderfer, for $45 per acre On April 1st, 1853, the latter and his wife, Catharine, conveyed the same property to Aaron Bergey, one of the administrators. He owned this property nineten years, but in the meantime sold off small tracts, reducing the farm to fifty-two acres and then sold the same to William Wendler, Sr., April 1, 1871. After the death of old William Wendler, in 1882, the heirs conveyed the farm to William Wendler, Jr., the present owner.

This used to be a great place for game and gunners here along the Branch creek before the timber was cut away. Aaron Bergey spent many a day roaming over these hills with his gun searching for game. If there was any game to be found it was here. But we will leave those hills for a while and go down to the Little Branch.

HANS REIFF.

One of the early settlers in Lower Salford was Hans Reiff, who appears to have been a man of some means, but like many others of his day and of the present, he appears not to have left many "foot prints on the sands of time." So much we can say of him that he was a prosperous man and belonged to the Mennonite church. He came here into the forest and built his log cabin in 1718.

It has already been mentioned in these sketches that on the tenth day of September, 1717, a warrant was granted to David Powel for 3000 acres of land "situated on or near the branches of the Parkeawming creek in the county of Philadelphia." On February 14, 1718, Hans Reiff purchased 270 acres with allowance of six per cent. for roads and highways from David Powel. The conveyance was made before Francis Daniel Pastorius, of Germantown.

For some cause or other, it appears, David Powel drew a right line running nearly through

Lower Salford, from the southern corner of Gabriel Shuler's land, beginning at a stone corner of Harman Vogel's land, forty-two perches southeast from the road passing by his house, which was the corner of Mr. Shuler's land. From that corner the line was drawn due northwest extending up the present "Meeting House lane" beyond the Branch creek, to the line of Upper Salford. This line, though obliterated at several places in recent years, can be easily recognized at this day yet. As David Powel was a surveyor he undoubtedly had an object in view in drawing that line, whatever his object was I cannot say, but I can say that against this line he backed a number of his sales, on either side thereof. We will now commence at a corner in the public road near Harman Vogel's house as a corner of Hans Reiff's land; then going northwest along the aforesaid right line up to the northern corner of a farm at present belonging to Rev. Jacob C. Moyer, and occupied by John O. Clemens. From this corner we will go southwest along a line of Samuel R. Landis' land forty or fifty perches beyond Morris' road to a corner now unknown; from that place we will go southeast down over the fields to a corner of Morris' road near the residence of Joseph Heckler, then down the same passing by Martin Heckler's house to a corner in Peter Garges' field; then continuing on down across the Little Branch creek at the closed creamery and up the hill to a corner near the road in Henry Becker's field; then northeast along the public road to the place of beginning near Harman Vogel's house. This was the tract of land containing 270 acres purchased by Hans Reiff, February 14, 1718. His first residence was built near the present residence of John O. Clemens. There was a spring of lasting water there at that time which induced Hans Reiff to build there.

and there he lived ten, twelve or more years, when he built himself another log house farther down on his land where George P. Heckler now lives. There he also found a never failing spring. Soon after making his first purchase he bought yet forty-nine acres of land lying along the northwest side of his tract, which is now contained in the farm belonging to Samuel R. Landis. This tract he and his wife, Ann, sold to Christian Allebach, September 14, 1737. He also purchased fifty-six acres lying between Morris' road and the other road, coming down from Lederachville, formerly known as the "Brandy road," which is confirmed by a patent dated August 6, 1734. From the deed which Hans Reiff and his wife gave to Christian Allebach it appears that his whole tract contained 390 acres, and that the tract which he had purchased for forty-nine acres, by the time he sold it, had increased to fifty. Some time about the year 1730, or possibly later, Mr. Reiff had 100 acres surveyed and cut off for a separate plantation, which he sold to Hans Klemmer at some time before the year 1734, for his name appears on the list of taxables of Lower Salford of that year, rated for 100 acres of land. Hans Klemmer was a young beginner at that time while Hans Reiff was an elderly man in good circumstances who was willing to help a poor man.

People then had a way of purchasing land and paying for it by annual installments. Just how it was managed I can not say. But this appears to have been the agreement between Hans Reiff and Hans Klemmer. It was helping a poor man along who otherwise could not have obtained a beginning because he did not have the cash.

In 1741 Hans Reiff's wife died. At that time they were living where George P. Heckler lives. She is buried in the graveyard at the Mennonite

meeting house in Lower Salford. A small, fine, red sandstone with the initials A. R. F. and the date 1741 neatly cut into it, marked her grave until a few years ago, when, by some mishap, the stone was broken off in several pieces. A few years later, in 1746, he sold his farm then supposed to contain 243 acres to Peter Freed, for £240. What then became of Hans Reiff I can not say, but suppose he died soon afterward and is buried by the side of his wife, for there are seven or eight graves there in the same row with his wife, which I suppose belong to his family—all having rough stones without any names or dates on them excepting Barbara Reiff, who died in 1773.

Hans Reiff either died before 1750 or emigrated westward, because on the 29th of September, 1750, Frederick Alderfer, who was a witness to the conveyance which Reiff and his wife gave to Christian Allebach, September 14, 1737, acknowledged the deed by affirmation for Hans Reiff before Rowland Evans, which shows that Reiff was either absent or dead.

The name of Hans Reiff appears on the tax list of 1734 and at that he time lived where George P. Heckler lives. His name also appears on a petition sent to Governor Gordon, May 10, 1728, praying for relief against what they suffered from the Indians, who had fallen on the back inhabitants about Falkner Swamp and Goschenhoppen.

The name Reiff means maturity, as in speaking of fruit or grain we say it is ripe for harvest—*reif zur ernde.*

FREDERICK ALDERFER.

It has been stated that Hans Klemmer made a contract with Hans Reiff at some time before 1734 for 100 acres of land and that he was rated for so many acres that same year. That same year a warrant was granted to Mr. Clemmer for the sur-

vey of a tract of fifty-six acres adjacent to his land. This tract bounded his other tract on the southwest side, extending over to the other road, from Andrew Ledrach's land, at present John Ledrach's, down to the road below, leading across from Delp's old shop to Morris road. But much land required much labor and the laborers were not very plenty. As the custom then was to get their work done as cheap as they could Hans Clemmer did as others did at that time. He went down to the wharf in Philadelphia and purchased a man to work for him, or in other words, he paid the passage to the captain of the ship for a passenger who had no money. That man's name was Frederick Alderfer. People purchased in that way were called redemptioners, because when they had served their time bargained for they were free.

The name Alderfer was of German origin, and is derived from *Alt Dorf*—Old town; and hence *Alt-dœrfer*, as the name originated, undoubtedly signified a resident of *Alt Dorf*, or the Old town, the same as Stetler signifies villager. There were several *Alt Dorfs* in the old countries; one of them was in Switzerland. The ancestor of all the Alderfers in America, so far as is known, was born in the Palatinate in Germany on the 18th day of May, 1715, and was christened to the Lutheran faith. Prof. I. D. Rupp in his "Thirty Thousand Names" gives the time of his arrival in Philadelphia in the ship Samuel as August 11, 1732. He fled to America to avoid the military service in his native land, and on his arrival here had no money to pay his passage. He then became a redemptioner to Hans Klemmer, of Salford, who paid it for him. But before he had served his time out Hans Klemmer died, leaving a bereaved young widow and two daughters named Susanna and Catharine. The

maiden name of the widow Klemmer was Anna Detweiler. So then it came to pass in 1738 that Frederick Alderfer married the widow Klemmer, and befriended her children. Susanna Klemmer born December 14, 1732, died March 28, 1750, aged seventeen years, three months and fourteen days. To Frederick Alderfer and his wife were born six children, four sons and two daughters. So well did they succeed in temporal affairs that in 1776 we find him taxed for 490 acres and a grist mill. This mill has been known as Alderfer's mill ever since until recently it was bought by Jacob S. Groff, the present owner, who is married to Alderfer's daughter.

A warrant was granted to Hans Klemmer in 1734 for fifty-six acres of land, but as he died soon afterward and no further satisfaction was made by him the contract was not consumated until Frederick Alderfer made satisfaction and obtained a patent for it in 1739. He sold ten acres of this woodland sometime afterward. It is now owned by Jacob and John Kinsey and is occupied by a new premises. Hans Klemmer had not paid off all the annual installments on his land to Hans Reiff and had no deed for it when he died. But it appears that after his death his widow and Frederick Alderfer still continued to pay off their annual installments and had no deed yet on January 1, 1740, for on that day Hans Reiff leased those 100 acres to Frederick Alderfer for one year. In what year Frederick Alderfer received his deed from Mr. Reiff I have not been able to ascertain, but it must have been soon afterward. Frederick Alderfer must have lived there at least sixty-eight years. He died November 7, 1801, aged eighty-six years, five months and nineteen days. After him the farm belonged to his son Joseph. In 1830 his farm still contained 150 acres. Joseph

died November 14, 1831, aged eighty years, nine months and ten days.

Joseph Alderfer had no children, but they adopted a child whose name was Magdalene Moyer. She, after a while, married Benjamin Detweiler, and Joseph Alderfer in his will devised the farm to Mr. Detweiler. In later years the latter built the residence now belonging to William Godshall, and that of Isaac Frederick, formerly belonging to Samuel Detweiler, and divided his farm into three parts.

Frederick Alderfer had six children, namely: Jacob, born January 5, 1739, married Elizabeth Kulp and had five children. He died July 16, 1797, aged fifty-eight years, six months and eleven days. His wife, Elizabeth, born in 1748, died in 1827, aged seventy-nine years.

Mary, born July 14, 1742, died April 23, 1777. She was not married.

John, born February 8, 1745, married Elizabeth Rosenberger and had eight children. He died December 19, 1820, aged seventy-five years, ten months and eleven days. His wife, Elizabeth, died August 7, 1823, aged seventy-five years, five months and twenty-eight days.

Abraham, born November 4, 1747, married Catharine Sauder but had no children. He died April 17, 1825, aged seventy-seven years, five months and fifteen days. She was a widow and had several children when he married her. She died August 28, 1814, aged sixty-three years and ten days.

Joseph, born February 4, 1751, married Mary [illegible] but they had no issue. He died November 14, 1831, aged eighty years, nine months and ten days. His wife, Mary, died October 13, 1823, aged seventy-six years, three months and twelve days.

Susanna, born March 10, 1754, died April 17, 1759.

Anna, wife of Frederick Alderfer, died January 18, 1767.

at five o'clock in the evening.

The children of Jacob Alderfer were:

Frederick, born September 22, 1771, married Elizabeth Hagey; he died July 11, 1852, aged eighty years, nine months and twenty days. His wife, Elizabeth, died October 1, 1852, aged seventy-nine years, nine months and twenty-six days.

Isaac, born October 7, 1773, married (first) Hannah Overholtzer — (second) Elizabeth Overholtzer; he died November 8, 1842, aged sixty-nine years, one month and one day. His first wife died in 1801. His second wife, Elizabeth, died May 27, 1848, aged sixty-nine years.

Gertrude, born October 29, 1776, married John Kinsey, of Rockhill township, Bucks county. She died April 18, 1834, aged fifty-eight years, five months and twenty-six days. John Kinsey died March 21, 1850, aged seventy-eight years, four months and five days.

Ann, born May 14, 1780, married Jacob Kinsey, likewise of Rockhill. She died November 17, 1823, aged forty-three years, six months and five days. Jacob Kinsey died April 15, 1845, aged seventy-five years and one day.

Jacob, born August 15, 1785, married Margaret Van Fossen; he died March 2, 1845, aged sixty years, six months and eighteen days. His wife, Margaret, died September 6, 1848, aged sixty-four years, one month and six days.

The children of John Alderfer were:

Ann, born March 13, 1789, married Henry Lesbach; she died May 17, 1862, aged ninety-two years two months and four days. Henry Lesbach died September 4, 1841, aged seventy-five years, seven months and twenty-six days.

Benjamin, born October 3, 1771, married Elizabeth Shoemaker; he died June 13, 1840, aged sixty-eight years, eight

months and fifteen days. His wife, Elizabeth, died November 17, 1840, aged sixty-eight years, one month and sixteen days.

Frederick, born November 24, 1773, married (first) Susanna Showalter, (second) widow Elizabeth Shott, daughter of David and Anna Rosenberger, (third) Anna Frederick, of Rockhill township, Bucks county; he died December 9, 1854, aged eighty-one years and fifteen days.

Mary, born February 15, 1777, was never married. She died June 1, 1857, aged eighty years, four months and sixteen days.

Joseph, born October 11, 1779, married Hannah Kinsey; he died March 6, 1863, aged eighty-three years, four months and twenty-six days. His wife, Hannah, died September 12, 1824, aged forty-eight years and seven days.

Abraham, born July 21, 1782, married (first) Susanna Shoemaker, (second) Ann Keeley; he died May 27, 1865, aged eighty-two years, ten months and six days.

Elizabeth, born August 12, 1785, was never married. She died June 25, 1857, aged seventy-one years, ten months and thirteen days.

John, born July 27, 1789, was never married; he died January 10, 1864, aged seventy-four years, five months and fourteen days.

The early Alderfers were prominent in the affairs of the township, but their education was limited and until recently in the German language. They were generally very tenacious in adhering to the Mennonite faith, and are still so with a few exceptions. In politics they have been invariably Republican. As a general thing they are well-to-do farmers and some of them are quite wealthy. Thirty-three Alderfers are at present assessed as tax-payers in Lower Salford, and they represent capital amounting to

$174,232. Twenty-six of these names are in the voter's list.

PETER FREED.

Peter Freed was a son of John Freed, of Perkiomen, whose name appears in the tax list of that township in 1734. There was also one Paul Freed whose name appears in the tax list in the said township in that year. Both these names appear on a petition to Governor Gordon in 1728, praying for relief against what they had suffered from the Indians, who had fallen on the back inhabitants about Falkner Swamp and Goschenhoppen. Paul Freed had a plantation of 120 acres, but he had only one child, a daughter, Mary, wife of Jacob Grater. In his will which was dated January 29, 1743, and was probated May 1st of that year, before Jacob Reiff, of Lower Salford, deputy Register, he gives and bequeathes all his property to his wife, Elizabeth, and his daughter, Mary, and her husband. His will was witnessed by Michael Ziegler, Peter Kolb and Robert Jones.

But John Freed, of the same township, owned 130 acres of land. His will was dated May 7, 1744, and was proven February 5, 1745, before Jacob Reiff, of Lower Salford, deputy Register. He died December 31, 1744, aged sixty-two years. His wife's name was Christiana, and they had five children, namely, Henry, Peter, Catharine, Maria and John. The last named was the sole executor. They had a servant maiden, probably a redemptioner, whose name was Barbra —— and whose time until expiration was to be given to the widow of the testator. In his will appear the following crude bequests: "I give to my son, John Freed, my prundewine kettles," "I give a mare to my son, John Freed; but if he like it rather to have the servant boy, Alexander Stockslager, it is in his free liberty," "I give twenty shillings to the alms," "I give my last will and order to you together,

depart from evil and do good, seek peace and pursue it, and honor your mother." "my dearly beloved friends, Jacob Creder and Paul Freed, I confirm you to be administrators over this my last will and testament." Signed: John Freed.

The witnesses were Christopher Dock, George Smith and Martin Kolb. Undoubtedly this will was written by Christopher Dock, whose education was in German, and who did not know what constituted good English. A singular appointment is made in the last item in nominating or placing administrators over the executor. It shows that the writer was not acquainted with the names and functions of the appointees who settle estates, or he would have called the admintrators trustees, and not alone that, but such a one who was dead a whole year already, would not have been appointed. It looks as if the testator was not in his right mind, or else possibly a mistake in dates may have been made by the Register, and the date of Paul Freed's will instead of being 1743 should be 1748.

As already stated Peter Freed was a son of John Freed, and his brothers were Henry and John. Whether they were born in Pennsylvania or in Holland is not positively known, but most probably in the first named place. Of Henry Freed I can not say anything, but of John I can say that he was a resident of Perkiomen township; he was twice married. His first wife, Mary, died January 3, 1786, aged sixty years and six months. He died January 20, 1819, at the advanced aged of ninety-three years, two months and four days. His second wife, Mary, survived him yet five years; she died June 20, 1824, aged eighty-two years, eleven months and seventeen days. In 1756 John Freed was rated on 120 acres of land, but in 1766 he appears to have been a resident of Perkiomen, and

must have lived in a neighboring township. He and his wives are buried in Skippack at the Mennonite meeting house.

There was also a John or Hans Freed in Upper Salford as appears in the tax list of 1734, he lived about three-fourths of mile west of Salfordville, but I do not know anything of him. Peter Freed had a son, John, and a son, Abraham, but the latter died leaving two children. Who Peter Freed's wife was is not certainly known, but it is probable that she was a daughter of Hans Reiff. Her name was Barbara, and she died in 1773.

On March 26, 1746, Hans Reiff conveyed a messuage and tract of land yet remaining in his possession, supposed to contain 243 acres, to Peter Freed, for £280. The log house built by Hans Reiff, as is supposed, about the year 1730 was torn down by George P. Heckler in 1876. Peter Freed at some time during his residence there built an addition to it containing two rooms on the first floor. This addition was built of stone. This addition made the house convenient for two families. There was then a large kitchen in between the two ends; each end containing two rooms, and a cellar under each end, but not under the kitchen. That old log house stood there about 145 years. Peter Freed also built the barn which is still standing with the date 1768 cut into the barn door lintel. Besides owning this farm he purchased of Jacob Clemens in 1756 a tract of land containing ninety-eight acres with buildings and improvements, for £298, which he owned nineteen years, and sold it back again to Mr. Clemens in 1775, for £470, thus gaining £172 by the transaction. This tract was then bounded by lands of Andrew Ledrach, Frederick Alderfer and Jacob Clemens' other land. It was located about half a mile east of Lederachville, and is now owned by Samuel R. Landis and

partly by Rev. Jacob C. Moyer. It was originally composed of two tracts of forty-nine and forty-six acres each. The forty-nine-acre tract originally belonged to Hans Reiff, but when he sold it to Christian Allebach in 1737 it had increased to fifty acres, and the other tract containing forty-six acres which he purchased from Jacob Reiff in 1730, it appears, increased to forty-eight acres.

No sooner had Peter Freed sold the aforesaid farm than he immediately purchased another containing 215 acres from John Shuler, of Upper Hanover, and his wife, Elizabeth. This farm lay adjacent to his homestead on the northeast and was originally part of the Gabriel Shuler tract. The outlines in some places are the same to-day as they then were. The line then began in the North Wales road and is now the line between Theodore H. Moyer and George D. Alderfer, Esq., southwest till down to the other road opposite Mr. Alderfer's house; then northwest across the stream; then southwest to Peter Freed's other land; then southaest by the same to Philip Stong's land; thence by the same northeast till over to another corner of Philip Stong, now Godshalk Delp's land; then northwest till up to the other road; then northeast out that road across the North Wales road a considerable distance; then northwest; then southwest; then again northwest along the great road to the place of beginning. These are the outlines of the tract purchased by Peter Freed containing 215 acres. It is now owned by Jacob F. Alderfer, John F. Alderfer, Sylvanus U. Koch, Theodore Moyer, Mary Alderfer, Samuel Hauck, William Keyser and others. Immediately after purchasing this tract and premises Peter Freed divided the land and sold 115 acres of it with buildings and improvements to his son, John. The remaining 100 acres he kept for

his own use, and reserved the right to lay a dam into his son, John's, meadow, which is there to-day yet and can not be removed.

John Freed resided there about eleven years, but did not succeed well, for he run into debt, and in 1786 confessed judgment to Joseph Wismer in the sum of £800 and costs which were £2, 11s, 6d. Then by a writ of *venditioni exponas* issued by the court of Montgomery county, directed to Zebulon Potts, Sheriff, after due notice, it was sold by him on the 5th day of June 1787, to Joseph Wismer, for £575. It now belongs to Jacob F. Alderfer and others.

What afterward became of John Freed is not known. But Peter Freed by that time was well advanced in years In the meantime he had sold his large farm, or the old homestead, to his son-in-law, George Heckler, and had removed on his other farm. His residence was where Sylvanus Koch now lives. His wife, Barbara, having died in 1773, his two daughters, Eliza- and Catharine, remained with their father until he died in 1790. After his death his farm containing 100 acres was sold by his executors to Frederick Alderfer. Peter Freed made his will October 29, 1784, and therein nominated his two sons-in-law, Daniel Longaker and John Bean, as executors. The witnesses were Gabriel Shuler, Joseph Alderfer and John Barkey, Sr., (Bergey).

Some time afterward he added a codicil in which he bequeathed to his daughter, Elizabeth, fifty pounds extra, and to his daughter, Catharine, twenty pounds extra for their faithful attention to him in his old age. The witnesses to the codicil were Gabriel Shuler and Herman Achey. He was about seventy-six years old when he died. His estate was divided into eleven shares; ten shares to his children then living, and one

share to the two children of his deceased son, Abraham. He bequeathed twenty-five pounds to the Mennonite church in Salford and the same amount to the Mennonite church in Skippack, for the use of the poor. His will had been written in German and was afterward translated into English by Frederick Muhlenburg. It is said he donated quite liberally to the Mennonite church in Salford while living, and when the second house was built he gave quite freely for that purpose.

The name Freed indicates peace; it was originally written Fried and Freid. They were undoubtedly Dutch Mennonites who came to Pennsylvania and settled in Skippack at the invitation of Mathias Van Bebber. It appears to be characteristic of the Freed family to be a moral and religious people. They generally belong to the Mennonite church, and are invariably, so far as known, as their name indicates, a peace-loving people. A long life appears to run in the family as recited of John Freed, of Skippack, who died in 1819, at the advanced age of over ninety-three years, and Peter Freed who died at the age of seventy-six. Then we must not forget the late John Freed, of Harleysville, whose age was nearly eighty nine years.

In regard to Peter Freed's wife it is not known who she was, but taking several matters into consideration it appears very probable that she was a daughter of Hans Reiff. First, because they both belonged to the same church, and after Reiff's wife was dead Freed purchased the farm the same way as Heckler did after Freed's wife was dead. More than all other considerations the relation is indicated in their burial in the graveyard. Reiff's wife has several graves on her right and on her left; there are seven or eight in all; then is Barbara Reiff next to Peter Freed's wife, their headstones are both alike

and undoubtedly Peter Freed put these stones there. They are not marble but they are a kind of stone dug in the vicinity of the marble quarries, and the name and year 1773 are on. The next in the same row is Peter Freed and then come the Hecklers.

If Peter Freed's wife, Barbara, was Hans Reiff's daughter, then the Barbara Reiff could not have been Hans Reiff's daughter. It is also possible that she was the Barbara mentioned in John Freed's will, whose time was to be given to the widow of the testator.

GEORGE HECKLER.

In 1785 Peter Freed sold his plantation, supposed to contain 243 acres, to his son-in-law, George Heckler. More recent surveys show that it contained two hundred and sixty acres. This large plantation is now divided into numerous small tracts or parcels of land, and is occupied by eight residences belonging to Jacob S. Heckler, Martin Heckler, George P. Heckler, Joseph Heckler, Samuel R. Landis, Andrew Delp, Peter Garges and Abraham B. Alderfer, besides several small tracts belonging to other induviduals. On this tract are quarried some of the best building and flagstone in the township.

George Heckler was born at Retchweiler, in Lower Alsace, a country in France, between the river Rhine and Vosges mountains, in the reign of Louis XV. on the 26th day of April, 1736. It will perhaps be remembered by some people that the immediate result of the Franco-German war in 1871 was the annexation of this province to the German Empire. The name of George Heckler's father, it is said, was Michael. George also had a brother, Michael, and one sister whose name is not known. Obeying the advice of his parents, when fifteen years of age, he went to learn the tailoring trade, and after three years of rigid ap-

prenticeship he became free from his master. He was then about eighteen at which time, according to law, he would be compelled to go *auf die wanderschaft*, which was traveling from place to place as a journeyman tailor, working for and learning from numerous masters to make him proficient in his trade. But as his first master was a severe one, presuming they were all so, he refused to obey that law and rather than to submit to arrogant tyranny, fled to America. He arrived at Philadelphia in the ship Neptune from Rotterdam on the 30th day of September, 1754. On his arrival here he was in a state of extreme poverty and could not pay for his passage. As the custom then was to sell those passengers who could not pay for their passage into servitude to such men as would buy them, George Heckler also was sold for eighteen pounds, a sum equal to about $48. He then became a redemptioner for three years to John Stoner, of North Coventry township, Chester county, whose residence was opposite Pottstown. During those three years he did not get much money in hand but learned to know the value thereof that in later years when he made money he knew how to keep it. John Stoner was a kind reasonable man, and when those three years of servitude had expired, Mr. Heckler hired himself to Mr. Stoner, in whose employ he remained about seven years, and learned to work and save. Ten years after his arrival in Philadelphia, in 1764, he married Catharine, daughter of Peter Freed, of Lower Salford. She was a good-natured, kind-hearted, peace-loving woman; generous and kind to the poor, and was a member of the Mennonite church. It was perhaps about the time of their marriage when Peter Freed built the addition of two rooms to his house, which has been mentioned in a previous article. At the time of their marriage he was twenty-

eight years of age and she twenty-three. Several years afterward he purchased a farm containing 100 acres in Hilltown township, Bucks county, near the present Blooming Glen. On that farm they lived seventeen years. It was during the time that they lived there that the Revolutionary war took place, and his farm wagon was pressed into the army, but after the war was over it was returned, and is still in use by G. P. Heckler on the old Heckler farm in Lower Salford. It is a little like the boy's knife which had been repaired so often that it was almost another knife.

In the spring of the year 1785 George Heckler purchased the plantation supposed to contain 243 acres from his father-in-law, Peter Freed, for £2000 in solid gold and silver. It was the same premises or plantation which Peter Freed had purchased from Hans Reiff in 1745 and had owned it thirty-nine years. This large tract contained much heavy timber even in the beginning of this century. About forty acres were not so heavily timbered where the land was low and nearly level; it was a thicket overgrown with bushes; briers and berries of various kinds grew there in abundance. At that time this wet, wild land was designated as "Heckler's plain." It was a great place for rabbits in the fall and winter season as well as for grouse. Skunks and opossums were found there. Besides it was a great place for serpents, especially for black snakes in the summer. Huckleberries grew there in abundance about seventy years ago, but there is now no vestage of them remaining.

On this farm there were perhaps 500 apple trees, besides many other fruit trees of various kinds. About the year 1795 George Heckler erected a distillery and manufactured large quantities of "apple jack," and peach brandy from the many

peaches which grew there. Much more might be said of the thrift and industry of the family which I will, however, omit, because my article will thereby become too lengthy.

In the year 1800 George Heckler purchased of John Delp a farm containing 146 acres on the Skippack creek for £15 0. Their conveyance is dated April 21st of that year. The first farm contained by recent surveys 260 acres, and the one on the Skippack 146, added thereto made 406 acres. This was doing pretty well for a man who had been a redemptioner.

The farm on the Skippack was purchased for his two sons, George and Peter. When Jacob was married a house was built and a premises made for him on a portion of the large tract, and about fifty-two acres were laid off thereto. This tract is now owned by Samuel R. Landis. George Heckler also owned a tract of ten acres of wood land, which had been cut off from Reiff's land, which was afterward owned by George and Peter. It is now owned by George Weigner and Peter Garges. On the 12th day of January, 1814, George Heckler made his last will and testament in writing and therein appointed his two sons, Peter and Abraham, to be his executors. He devised his plantation then containing yet 205 acres to his two sons, Abraham and David. They were to divide the farm as they would agree. He died of apoplexy August 28, 1816, aged eighty years, four months and two days. His wife, Christiana, survived him yet sixteen years. She died March 6, 1832, aged ninety-one years, five months and six days.

They had eleven children, namely, Barbara, Hannah, George, Peter, Michael, Abraham, John, Catharine and Elizabeth, twins; Jacob and David.

Barbara, born in 1765 was never in her right mind; she

died in September, 1822, aged about fifty-seven years.

Hannah, born in 1767, married Christopher Rohr; he died in 1822, aged about fifty-three years. She died in 1851, aged about eighty-four years.

George, born June 1, 1769, married Ann Detweiler; she died February 28, 1843, aged about seventy-four years. He died March 10, 1855, aged eighty-five years, ten months and eight days.

Peter, born ~~September 14~~ December 27, 1770, married Sarah Detweiler; he died January 22, 1847, aged seventy-six years, one month and twenty-six days. She died March 22, 1851, aged sixty-eight years, six months and eight days. Peter was the father of Jacob Heckler, of Harleysville, who is now in his eighty-eighth year.

Michael, born in 1772, died in 1796, aged twenty-four years and two months.

Abraham, born April, 1774, married Sarah Shirer; he died November 7, 1865, aged ninety-one years and seven months. She died May 19, 1873, aged seventy-seven years and ten months.

John, born in 1776, died young and is buried at the Mennonite meeting house in Hilltown.

Catharine, born in 1778, married Joseph Henry Eickert; he died March 18, 1846, aged eighty-five years. She died March 17, 1870, aged ninety-two years.

Elizabeth, born in 1778, married John Eickert; she died in June 1854, aged seventy-six years. He died in 1856.

Jacob, born in 1780, married Fronica Detweiler; he died December 13, 1837, aged fifty-six years. She died April 1, 1865, aged eighty-one years.

David, born in 1782, married Ann Place; she died January 4, 1860, aged sixty-seven years, four months and three days. He died January 21, 1868, aged nearly eighty-four

years.

Catharine and Elizabeth, twins, married brothers, and afterward removed to Washington township, Schuylkill county, Pa., where they purchased a large tract of land containing 362½ acres from Peter Kumfer and wife, Margaret, March 27, 1817. Elizabeth had no issue, and Catharine left only one child, a son, his name is Joseph Eickert, now quite an old man. The farm on the Skippack was divided between George and Peter. The latter owned his farm forty-seven years, but after his death in 1847 it was sold at public sale to Martin Rosenberger, who owned it about thirty years when he sold it to Mr. Ruth, the present owner. George lived on his farm fifty-five years, and after him his son, George, became the owner, and he is still living there. That has now been a Heckler's farm eighty-seven years. After the death of Jacob, in 1837, his only son, Joseph, owned the farm until about 1870, when he sold it to S. R. Landis, the present owner.

Abraham and David heired the old homestead by virtue of their father's will, which was dated January 12, 1814, two years before his death. They owned the farm in common for a period of twenty-three years, by virtue of their father's will, but had it surveyed and divided as they agreed in 1839. In the meantime Abraham had built himself a house where his son, Jacob, now lives, and David had also built himself a house and a mill for cleaning clover seed and chopping grists. The land has now belonged to the Heckler family 102 years.

David built his mill in 1835, although it has been turned into a creamery and is now closed. The first house where Henry Becker now lives was built in the beginning of this century. It was long owned and occupied by Nancy King, who kept a

beer shop. She died there July 10, 1843. The land was cut out of the Reiff tract and sold by John Reiff. It should have been mentioned in connection with the Reiffs.

The name Heckler originally was Hechler, which means one who hackles; properly translated it would be Hackler. Edward Flynn, the Irish stonecutter, changed the h to k on the headstone in the name of the ancestor of the family, which gave rise to a gradual change as the name now is.

GABRIEL SHULER

Was an early settler of Lower Salford, but I am sorry that I can not give my readers a very satisfactory account of him. He had a grandson of the same name who owned the same premises twenty-two years after him, and the two individuals are often mistaken for one and the same man. But I will now try and distinguish them, so far as I can, as Gabriel Shuler, Sr., and Gabriel Shuler, Jr. The residence of the former and then of the latter was on the Little Branch, where George D. Alderfer's now is. According to tradition he was a squatter, who settled here as early as 1712 or 1715, but traditional stories are often very incorrect, and I opine this is so too. I have not been able to find any old deed giving any date of his first purchase, but it is probable that it was in 1718. His whole tract of land, according to modern surveys, contained about 425 acres. But this tract was purchased in four tracts at so many different dates and four patents therefor were obtained from the provincial government in 1734. It is certain that the boundaries of a large portion thereof had been located at an early day, because when Jacob Taylor surveyed 546 acres for Samuel Powel in 1721 he went around the southern corner of Gabriel Shuler's land, and took notice of it whose land it was. On the other hand it is clear that John Isaac Klein

had located his boundaries of his first tract before the northern boundaries of Shuler's tract were set. This will be noticed by those only who have an understanding of such matters.

His great tract is now owned by Jacob H. Allebach, Benjamin C. Moyer, Mahlon H. Moyer, George D. Alderfer, Esq., Jacob F. Alderfer, John F. Alderfer, Sylvanus Koch, Theodore H. Moyer and others, About ninety-six acres of this land were on the northeast side of the great road, which was all in timber fifty years ago. I will have more to say of this tract after awhile, as it was purchased at a much later date than his other land. He apparently was an ingenious workman in wood, for when the Goschenhoppen church was built he made the pulpit at home and afterwards donated it to the church. This thing no one but a skillful workman would have undertaken. He was one of the party who, with Rev. John Philip Boehm, of Whitpain, and Ulrich Stephen, purchased the farm containing 150 acres and 154 perches from the executors who settled Christian Stauffer's estate, March 22, 1735, as noticed in the History of Harleysville. He was the man also who purchased the lot where Dr. Rein K. Keeler now lives, when it was sold by the Sheriff, Samuel Morris, Esq., September 23, 1752.

In 1770 he was a resident of Frederick township, where he in all probability owned a farm. He also owned a farm in Marlborough township, not very far from Hoppenville. Besides all this he was a man of influence and a man of means. We frequently find his name as witness to wills and conveyances.

In 1770 he sold 191 acres of his land to his grandson, John Shuler, who was a son of William Shuler, of Frederick township, deceased. This tract was made up of three tracts containing eighty-nine acres, sixty acres and forty-two acres. At

the same time, March 31, 1770, he and his wife, Catharine, conveyed to their grandson, Gabriel Shuler, Jr., 191 acres made up in three tracts of ninety-two acres, fifty-nine acres and forty acres. Those fifty-nine acres were woodland lying northwest from the Heydrick, now the Holdeman farm. By a resurvey thirty years later, in 1800, these three tracts last mentioned contained 211 acres.

It does not appear as if John Shuler had at all lived on this farm, for when he sold it to Peter Freed five years later, in 1775, he was a resident of Upper Hanover. This tract then contained 215 acres It is now owned by Jacob F. Alderfer, John F. Alderfer, Sylvaus U. Koch, William Keyser, Theodore Moyer and two lots on the other side of the road owned by Mary Alderfer and Samuel Hauck. Gabriel Shuler, Jr., after owning his tract twenty-two years, sold it to Jacob Alderfer, of Lower Salford. In collecting these notes I forgot to note the price paid. But their conveyance bears date April 9, 1792, signed by Gabriel Shuler and his wife, Sophia. She was a daughter of Rev. John Philip Leydich, of Frederick township. Gabriel Shuler, Sr., and his wife Catharine, Margaret Shuler, Elizabeth Shuler, John Shuler, William Shuler and others are buried in the burying grounds which belonged to Reiff's church, originally known as the Skippack Reformed church. I have this recollection yet of seeing those names on the stones. But as there were no dates or ages on, it is impossible to say when they died. It also appears probable that the headstones were put there some time after their demise, and that their ages and the dates of deaths had been forgotten. It also appears strange that they were buried here if they lived and died in Frederick township.

A traditional story has come down to us that Gabriel Shuler

was 109 years old when he died, which may be true or it may not be. There name originally was Shouler. So we find it in all the early records.

It has been handed down to us by tradition that Gabriel Shuler, Sr., kept a public house or tavern here a number of years, and the place where the first house or tavern stood is pointed out as east from the barn. It is also said that he and John Isaac Klein carried on a kind of competition in the hotel business, and Shuler, to advertise his business, put out a sign with the following couplet, in German, on it.

Ich verkaufe bier und wein
So volfeil als der nachbar Klein.

The first house or hotel undoubtedly was built of logs, but the second house also built by Gabriel Shuler was stone, part of it having stood until now, but is to be torn down soon. This old part was built in 1748. The other part was built by Isaac Alderfer in 1806, but it is all to be torn down and a new one of brick will be built this summer by G. D. Alderfer, Esq.

Immediately after Peter Freed had purchased from John Shuler in 1775, 215 acres, he went to work and divided the tract. One hundred and fifteen acres thereof he then sold to his son, John Freed, and reserved 100 acres for himself. On this tract he lived until the time of his death in 1790. This farm was afterward sold at public sale to Frederick Alderfer, Jr., whose residence it was until the time of his death July 11, 1852. Some time about the year 1834 the farm was divided and their son, Daniel, built the residence at the road, now belonging to John F. Alderfer. After the death of Frederick Alderfer and and his wife the old homestead was sold out in smaller tracts. since then it has had a succession of owners to the present time; it is now owned by Sylvanus U. Koch.

I must not forget to mention that Peter Freed laid that dam

into Jacob F. Alderfer's meadow in 1775, and reserved the right of the water for his own use when he sold the farm to his son, John, but sold his right to Joseph Wismer in 1788. Another dam was laid into the stream farther down some years previous, which irrigates George P. Heckler's meadow. These dams have old rights. And these rights, though at first disputed, were reconfirmed from time to time until they were firmly established.

John Freed did not succeed on his farm of 115 acres, for he run into debt, and in 1786 confessed judgment to Joseph Wismer, in the sum of £800 and costs, which were £2, 11s, 6d. Then, by a writ of *fieri facias* directed to the Sheriff, and the further writ of *venditioni exponas* issued by the court of Montgomery county, after due notice had been given, the farm was sold at public sale, on June 5, 1787 by Zebulon Potts Sheriff, to Joseph Wismer, for £575. On April 9, 1792, Joseph Wismer and his wife, Hannah, conveyed and confirmed this farm to Jacob Alderfer, who, at the same time, had the farm which he had purchased from Gabriel Shuler and wife, confirmed to him. Jacob Alderfer was a son of Frederick Alderfer, Sr., and also had a son, Frederick, who had purchased the farm of Peter Freed, deceased. Jacob Alderfer had three sons and two daughters, namely, Frederick, Isaac, Jacob, Ann and Gertrude. But then it came to pass unexpectedly that Jacob Alderfer died on July 16, 1797, in the fifty-ninth year of his age.

Some time afterward Frederick Alderfer, the oldest son, took out letters of administration, but did not have an appraisement made of the real estate until October 31, 1799. He sent his petition to court on September 10, when it was ordered that John Markley, Sheriff, and twelve men should appraise it according to due process of law.

On May 5, 1800, Frederick Alderfer, administrator, and wife, Elizabeth, confirmed by a deed to his brother, Isaac Alderfer, all that tract contained in the farms belonging to George D. Alderfer, Benjamin C. Moyer, Jacob H. Allebach, Mahlon H Moyer and John H. Berge.

It was the understanding among Jacob Alderfer's children and himself, when he purchased the farm from Joseph Wismer, that his youngest son, Jacob, should have that farm when he would be old enough and would want a farm. It was probably on that account that the administrator did not sell it before the year 1802. As Jacob was not on age then yet the farm was purchased by his uncle, Abraham Alderfer, who held it until Jacob became of age. Frederick Alderfer, administrator, and his wife, Elizabeth, granted a deed to Abraham Alderfer, guardian of Jacob Alderfer, a minor of Jacob Alderfer, deceased, June 11, 1802, for 115¼ acres of land and improvements. This then became the residence of Jacob Alderfer, Jr. Here he lived and died here March 2, 1864. The day before his funeral a deep snow fell, but the funeral was largely attended in sleighs. Before the procession left the house of mourning the widow ordered several men to take all the bells from the horses, and to lay them in each man's sleigh, that the funeral might pass along quietly. It was done so and made a solemn impression.

Some time afterward the farm was conveyed to his son, Jacob F. Alderfer, the present owner.

Isaac Alderfer was a Mennonite preacher. During the latter years of his life he divided his farm between two of his sons, Abraham and Isaac. He died November 8, 1842, in the seventieth year of his age.

Abraham O. Alderfer divided his farm between his two sons, Rudolph and Henry, but after the death of the former it was

purchased by Jacob H. Allebach, a son-in-law. As Henry did not want a farm he sold it to Benjamin C. Moyer, the present owner. Isaac O. Alderfer also divided his farm between his two sons, Isaac and George. The former sold his farm, which is now owned by Mahlon H. Moyer. The latter still resides on the old homestead.

HENRY RUTH.

One of the early settlers of Lower Salford was Henry Ruth, though he wrote his name differently, aside from the various ways that other people wrote it. He wrote his name in German, Rudt, Ruht, for so we find it as witness to deeds and wills. He came up here from New Britian, Bucks county, and after owning a tract of land and premises here twenty-nine years, he and his wife returned to the neighborhood from whence they came. On the 14th day of February, 1718, 200 acres were granted to him by David Powel. This conveyance was signed and sealed before Francis Daniel Pastorius, of Germantown, and Henry Pannepacker was the witness. The tract was 254 perches long and 130 perches wide. Beginning at a corner of Jacob H. Allebach's land, it extended along the middle of the present public road northwest up past Harley's corner and back to a corner of Simon Clemmer's land; then along the line between Clemmer's and Daniel Clemens' lands southwest 130 perches, past the meeting house to a corner; then southeast down the meeting house lane through Jacob C. Moyer's barn down to a corner of Benjamin C. Moyer's land, 254 perches; then northeast 130 perches to the place of beginning. But by resurveys the tract was found to contain about 220 acres.

On the 24th of May, 1728, Isaac Norris, James Logan and Thomas Griffith, commissioners of property for the province of Pennsylvania and attorneys for Joshua Gee, and John Wood, of

London, and Thomas Oad, of Bristol, England, surviving mortgagees and trustees of the estate of William Penn, deceased, granted a patent to Henry Ruth, of New Britian, Bucks county, over a certain mortgage bearing date April 30, 1724, for 200 acres of land in Salford, Philadelphia county. After owning this tract twelve years, on May 19, 1730, Henry Ruth and his wife, Modlena, conveyed to Christian Allebach 103 acres. Eight years later, October 5, 1738, Mr. Ruth and his wife sold ten acres to Henry Funk, Dielman Kolb, Christian Moyer, Jr., and Abraham Reiff for the use of the Mennonite church.

Nine years later, in 1747, Henry Ruth and his wife, Modlena, conveyed their farm containing yet 107 acres to Christian Stauffer, for £274. This tract is now contained in the six small farms belonging to John Clemmer, Joseph Clemmer, J. K. Harley, the two small farms belonging to Daniel Clemens and the lot belonging to Noah Musselman. Christian Stauffer owned this farm two years when he and his wife, Barbara, sold it to Christopher Dickenshied, for £300, on the 25th of January, 1749, thus gaining £26 by the transaction. Mr. Dickenshied had previously been a resident of Towamencin, but then lived here thirty-nine years. He was identified with the Lutheran church in Goshenhoppen, but was afterward buried at the Mennonite meeting house near by.

On March 12, 1787, he made his last will and testament in writing and therein appointed his son-in-law, John Wentz, of Norriton township, and his trusty friend, John Shuler, of Lower Salford to be his executors. The will was witnessed by Henry Schweitzer and Gabriel Shuler, and was probated April 28, 1788. The particulars thereof have already been given in the History of Harleysville. In the following spring

of 1789, those two executors already named, conveyed to Conrad Keely the aforesaid premises still containing 107 acres of land, for £404. Five years later, on the 25th of October, 1794, Conrad Keely and his wife, Catharine, sold eighty-five acres and eighty perches of their land to Isaac Klein, for £555, 15s, which was £157, 15s more than he had paid for the whole tract, besides having the messuage and nearly twenty-two acres of land remaining. This small farm Conrad Keely then kept until the time of his death, September 30, 1836.

It was then sold by Abraham Alderfer, executor, and John Alderfer, guardian of minor children, to his daughter, the late Margaret Keely, February 11, 1837. She then owned this small farm until about 1860, when she sold it to John Clemmer, the present owner.

Isaac Klein put buildings on his farm and owned the same nearly six years, when he and his wife, Magdalena, sold the whole tract still containing eighty-five acres and a half to John Clemmer, of Towamencin, for £715, March 31, 1800.

John Clemmer lived here where his grandson, Joseph, now lives, about thirty-six years, or until the time of his death, which occurred December 14, 1836, when he was in his eightieth year.

In the meantime he had built a house and other buildings for his son, Abraham, where John B. Clemens now lives, but Abraham died there before his father's estate was settled, and after the death of his father the small farm containing about twenty acres was sold.

After the death of John Clemmer, who died intestate, in 1836 application was made to the orphan's court of Montgomery county for an appraisement, and after the same was made by due process of law, the real estate was confirmed to John Clemmer, second son of John Clemmer,

Sr., deceased, August 22, 1837.

After this land was confirmed to John Clemmer; Jr., he made public sale and sold out the land in lots. Conveyances were given therefor in the following spring. The old homestead and a small tract of land John Clemmer did not sell, but kept it for his home and lived there, and finally died there a few years ago. It is now owned by his son, Joseph; several small tracts have since been added thereto, which makes it a nice little farm.

The corner lot containing eight acres, now belonging to Jacob K. Harley, was purchased by John Stauffer and a deed was given therefor April 3, 1838. The latter immediately built a small frame house there, which, from its yellow color and the beer shop which was kept there soon afterward, was facetiously called the "Yellow Tavern." The lot was soon after owned by David Weand and after him by Peter Moyer, who sold it to J. K. Harley, the present owner. In the meantime one or more small tracts or lots of land were added thereto.

Daniel Wile also purchased a lot and built a house there immediately. He then lived there and worked at his trade in his shop at the anvil until a few years ago. The lot now belongs to Noah Musselman. Sallie Klein also purchased a lot and built a house on it in the spring of 1838. It is now owned and occupied by Daniel Clemens. These three houses were built nearly at the same time.

John Clemmer, Sr., had seven children, three sons and four daughters. The sons were Abraham, John and Jacob. The daughters were Susanna, wife of Peter Boorse, of Towamencin; Edith, wife of Conrad Haring, of Upper Salford, and Margaret, wife of John Clemens, of Lower Salford.

The Clemmers have a tradition that their ancestor was a Swiss, and was a bishop in the Mennonite church, that he was

Residence of J. K. Hakley.

persecuted in Switzerland and fled to Alsace, and from the latter place to Pennsylvania in the year 1700.

He died some years later on a ministerial visit to churches in Lancaster county, and was buried somewhere in the said county. The name originally was written Klemmer, while in later years some have changed their name to Clymer.

CHRISTIAN ALLEBACH.

In the tax list of 1734 we also find the name of Christian Allebach, and his residence was where Rev. Jacob C. Moyer's now is. He appears to have been a man of means and was a member of the Mennonite church. He must have been here some time before 1734, because his name also appears on that petition to Governor Gordon in 1728, which has been noticed several times already.

For the first here he purchased of Jacob Reiff, the elder, on the 15th of April, 1730, forty-six acres of land as has been related in the sketch of Jacob Reiff. On May 19th of the same year he purchased of Henry Ruth and his wife, Modlena, 103 acres, being part of 200 acres confirmed by a patent dated May, 24, 1728; though the land was granted to the latter by David Powel February 14. 1718. The boundaries of the tract then commenced at what is now Harley's corner, then southeast by John Isaac Klein's land 127 perches to a corner; then southwest by a row of marked trees 130 perches to a corner of Hans Reiff's land; then northwest by same and land late of Jacob Reiff 127 perches to a stake; then northeast in the present turnpike road, by Henry Ruth's land 130 perches to the place of beginning, containing 103 acres. This deed was witnessed by John Isaac Klein, Ulrich Hertzell and Jacob Wilhelm, and was acknowledged by the affirmation of John Isaac Klein for Henry Ruth and wife before Rowland

Evans, September 29, 1750. It was recorded February 10, 1806. It will thus be seen how people did then, and how they trusted each other when their contracts were not made according to law. On September 14, 1737. Christian Allebach purchased from Hans Reiff and his wife, Ann, fifty acres, the same was part of 390 acres granted to Hans Reiff by a patent dated August 6, 1734. This deed was witnessed by Henry Rudt and Frederick Alderfer, and was acknowledged by the affirmation of the latter for Hans Reiff before Rowland Evans, September 29, 1750.

It would thus appear probable that Hans Reiff might have been dead at that time.

It will be remembered that Christian Allebach was one of the executors in settling the estate of Christian Stauffer, who died on the Binder farm in Harleysville, in 1735. He also was one of the executors who settled the estate of Claus Oblinger in 1739. He was married to the widow Grater. She had three children when he married her. It will be remembered that in the sketch of Peter Freed it is related that Paul Freed had an only daughter who was married to Jacob Grater; it was his mother who married Christian Allebach. The name Grater is variously written, as Greder, Gretter and Cretter. Christian Allebach lived there over fifteen years, and was undoubtedly the ancestor of all the Allebachs in Montgomery, Bucks and Chester counties.

The name Allebach is now variously written, even in this county some of them write their names Allebaugh and in the Western States it is Allenbaugh. There was one Christian Allebach in Franconia township about the year 1755, residing about a mile southward from Souderton. He may have been a son of this Christian Allebach, deceased.

He was in his best years during the time that he lived here.

But he took sick and made his will in writing dated August 6, 1746, and shortly after making his will the testator died. The will was probated September 10, 1746, before Jacob Reiff, of Salford, Deputy Register.

We are indebted to the kindness of Henry S. Dotterer, of Philadelphia, for an abstract of the said will by which it appears that the name of his wife was Elizabeth, and the names of his eight children were Ester, Elizabeth, Christian, David, Peter, John, Veronica, and Mary, besides yet one that was expected. The names of his step children were Jacob, Martin and Barbara Grater. He appointed his step son, Jacob Grater, and his beloved neighbor, Andrew Ziegler, son-in-law to Dielman Kolb, for his executors, to settle his estate. The witnesses to his will were Henry Rudt, Xtian Moyer and Charles Swartz. Xtian is the old way for writing Christian. He orders in his will that his maid servant shall be free one year after his decease. His wife, children and step children were to recieve share and share alike, but the executors were not to make the division before the expiration of ten years, but were to wait and see if his wife would remain a widow. In the meantime she was to be supported out of his estate. In the first place he mentions beds, bedding and other articles that she was to have.

We will make a few extracts of the will for the sake of showing our readers the scholarship of men who wrote wills in those days. "But in case she me sd wife shou'd mariedge then she is to have the sum of fiffthy pounds lawful money aforesaid whit my Testament and Salms Book whit ye aforesd goods." * * * * "I do hereby Nominate and appoint my Trusty and well beloved Steep son Jacob Greder of Bergjomen and Skipack in ye sd county, weaver, and my trusty and beloved neebor An-

drew Ziegler of Solford county aforesaid, saadler executors ot this my last will and testament."

On October 22, 1746, those two executors sold the lands of the said decedent, containing 202 acres to Jacob Clemens. Their deed was witnessed by Robert Jones and William Jones, of Worcester, and was acknowledged before William Allen on the 4th of December following. On December 16, 1756, Jacob Clemens and his wife, Barbara, sold ninety-eight acres to Peter Freed, of Lower Salford, for £298. It was the same premises now owned and occupied by Samuel R. Landis. But after owning it nineteen years Peter Freed sold the same messuage and ninety-eight acres of land back again to Jacob Clemens, who at that time was a resident of Gwynedd township, for £470, on the 27th of March, 1775. No sooner was this transaction consumated than Mr. Clemens and wife sold the messuage and fifty-two acres and seventy perches of the same land to Dillman Ziegler, for £300, on the 20th of April of the same year. It was part of two tracts, being a messuage and thirty-six acres and twenty-two perches of one tract containing fifty acres, which Christian Allebach bought from Hans Reiff in 1737. The other, sixteen acres and fifty perches, being part of forty-six acres which Christian Allebach purchased from Jacob Reiff in 1730.

On the 3rd of August, 1782, Jacob Clemens sold his farm, or parts of two farms to his son, John Clemens. It contained in all 154 acres and eighty-eight perches of land, and included perhaps all that is now comprised in the two farms belonging to Jacob C. Moyer and Joseph Delp, and a small tract belonging to Dr. H. G. Groff.

On the 14th day of December, 1779, Jacob Clemens made his last will and testament in writing, and therein appointed

his eldest son, Garret Clemens and his son-in-law, Michael Ziegler, executors. His will was probated November 30, 1782, when letters testamentary were granted. By his will it appears that they had twelve children, three sons and nine daughters. The sons were Garret, Jacob and John. The names of the daughters are not given excepting the youngest, Susanna, who was not on age when the will was made. He bequeathed "ten pounds lawful money to the meeting, to be paid to the elders for the use of the poor."

From the diligent researches of Mr. Edward Matthews, of North Wales, we extract the following: "The purchaser of the 100-acre farm in 1769, of which this article treats, was Jacob Clemmens or Clements. It included also about thirty acres of the farm of George Snyder adjacent. Clemens was the son of Garret Clemens, who came into Lower Salford about 1709. The name Garret is more properly "Gerhart," as it was sometimes spelled in the old documents. By the date of 1746 his son, Jacob, was a landholder in Salford, receiving a deed for a farm from his father. He was therefore not a young man at the time of this purchase from Amos Griffith, but bought the farm for his youngest son, named after himself. The presumption is that he lived in Gwynedd only a few years. It appears that he was a resident in 1775. It is certain that during the latter part of his life he resided on his Salford plantation. This was during the Revolution, and his will was made December 15, 1779. In this document he directs that the plantation of 150 acres in Salford, 'where I now live,' be devised to his son, John, and the Gwynedd farm to his son, Jacob, Jr. There was another son, Garret, mentioned named after his grandfather. He was already provided with a farm.

The elder Clemens was blessed, moreover with nine daughters. The name of only one is mentioned, Susanna, and one son-in-law, Michael Ziegler. He appears to have been pretty wealthy for a man of those days, inasmuch as £200 was bequeathed to each of his daughters. One public bequest was made—that of '£10 for the benefit of the poor of our meeting in Salford"—presumably the Mennonite meeting of that township. His death took place in November, 1785—his will being registered on the 30th of that month." He further says, "In 1788 Jacob Clemens, the younger, sold out his inherited farm in Gwynedd to Michael Ruth, Sr." It appears the aforementioned farm is located in Gwynedd near the line of Towamencin, because part of said farm is now owned by William L Moyer, of the latter township.

John Clemens, who purchased his father's farm in Lower Salford, became a wealthy man. He was married to Hannah, daughter of Daniel Price. He had two sons, Jacob and George; the latter for many years lived on the Allentown road in Towamencin, while the former inherited his father's plantation. Jacob Clemens is well remembered yet by elderly people. His plantation is now divided into two fine, valuable farms; the one is owned by his grandson, Rev. Jacob C. Moyer, whose residence it is, and the other, which was the residence of Mr. Clemens during his latter years, was sold by his grandson, Manass Clemens, and his father, Jacob Clemens, a few years ago. It is now the residence of Joseph S. Delp.

The farm sold to Dillman Ziegler was owned by him twelve years when he and his wife, Barbara, sold it to Henry Overholtzer, of Franconia, on the 7th of May, 1787. Two years later, on July the 4th, 1789, Mr. Overholtzer pur-

Statistics of Jacob Clemens.

See family record of Jacob[2] Clemens son of Gerhardt[1], page 219.
The sons were Garret[3], Jacob[3] and John[3]. For Garret's family see page 220.
Jacob[3] Clemens jr. had 5 children. Had five children named John, Abraham, Leonard[4], Jacob[4] and Mary[4] wife of Henry Moser of Worcester. Abraham and Leonard died unmarried and are buried in old Mattatuck. (Worcester)
Jacob[4] married — — Keyser. They owned a farm near Custer Station, but they are all dead: no children living — are all buried in Mattatuck.
John[4] Clemens married Margaret Clemmer and had four sons by her, whose names were Jacob[5], John[5], Daniel[5] and Aaron[5] who is yet living above Brandale. His second wife was Susan Wismer, and by her he had four more sons, named Abraham[5], Henry[5], James[5] and Samuel[5]. see Explanations, 1st, case.
Jacob[5] and John[5] were twins both born Oct. 10, 1814. Catherine[5] and Nancy[5] were sisters to said.

Jacob[5] C. Clemens b. Oct. 10, 1814 married first Sophia Shultz. They had five children; William[6] and Attaline[6] twins, Josephine[6] and Catharine[6]. Sophia died J. C. Clemens married a second time Angeline Brey, nee Wolf. They had nine children, named Jonathan[6], Daniel[6] died, Andora[6], Morris[6], Edwin[6] who was killed on the C. R. Oct. 10, 1887, aged 20 y. & 10 m. Mary[6] died, Maggie[6], Jacob[6] and Lizzie[6]. William[6] and Joseph[6] live in Philadelphia.
Jonathan[6] m. — — Reed. Andora m. Levi Musselman, he died. Maggie m. Gustus Bassel. Lizzie m. Augustus Kalb. — Jacob C. Clemens died Aug. 16, 1887, aged 72 y. 10 m. & 2 d.

John[5] C. Clemens b. Oct. 10, 1814, married Elizabeth Moyer. They had two children, Amos & Susan. Amos[6] died unmarried. Susan m. Elizabeth died.
J. C. Clemens married a second time Eliza Snyder. They had 3 children, Mary Ellen[6], Isabella[6] and Aaron[6]. — John C. Clemens died Jan. 1, 1871, aged 76 y. 2 m. & 15 d.

Catharine[5] Clemens m. John Wright. Nancy Clemens m. George Detweiler.

Daniel[5] Clemens b. Jan. 13, 1818, m. Barbara Boorse. They had 8 children, named Catharine, Daniel, died, Julia Ann, Mary, John, Frank, Barbara Ann, died, and Irwin.
Catharine[6] m. Daniel Clemmer. Julia Ann m. Henry Sandes. Mary m. Noah Musselman, she died. John m. Sallie Rosenberger. Frank m. Hannah Kinsey, both dead. Irwin m. Amanda Giegler. — Daniel Clemens died March 21, 1888, aged 70 y. 2 m. & 8 d.

Aaron[5] Clemens b. m. Katie Benner. They had 3 children, named Eliza, Irvine and Annie. Eliza[6] m. Frank Branninger, Irvine[6] m. John Steiner, she died, Annie[6] m. William Swartz.

Abraham[5] Clemens b. m. Susan Beckler. They had 7 children, named Mary, Sarah, Jane, Annie, Harry, Emma, Susan and Lizzie.

Henry[5] Clemens b.

James[5] Clemens b. — — unmarried was a soldier in the late war.

Samuel[5] Clemens b. died in the late war.

Susan[5] Clemens, a sister, m.

John, or Wannies[3] Clemens, son of Jacob, who died where Jacob C. Moyer lives, see page 120, had three children named John, Jacob and Catharine.

chased yet six acres and 106 perches adjacent, from John Clemens and wife, Hannah. On January 31, 1805, Mr. Overholtzer purchased a lot of woodland adjacent to the meeting house lands, containing three acres, from William Price and his wife, Catharine.

Henry Overholtzer owned this farm twenty-five years, and on the 7th of April, 1812, he and his wife, Hannah, conveyed all their lands containing sixty-two acres and eighteen perches to their son-in-law, John Bergey, for £900, excepting forty-one acres and thirty-five perches which he had purchased from the heirs of Abraham Clemens, August 10, 1811. But after his death in 1829, this property was sold by John Bergey and Hannah Overholtzer, widow, administrators, January 23, 1830. Seventeen acres and nineteen perches being part of those forty-one acres were sold to George Clemens. About twenty-four acres were sold to Henry Clemens, father of Rev. Isaac Clemens.

Rev. John Bergey owned this farm thirty-nine years, when he and his wife, Elizabeth, sold it to their son, Jacob O. Bergey, by articles of agreement dated March 22, 1851, and conveyed the same premises containing sixty-three acres and fifty-three perches to him one year later by a deed dated April 3, 1852. After owning it seven years Jacob O. Bergey and his wife, Deborah sold their farm containing sixty acres and fifty-three perches to Henry L. Moyer, April 3, 1858. The farm is now owned and occupied by Mr. Moyer's son-in-law, Samuel R. Landes.

ANDEREW LEDERACH.

The Lederach family has never been large, and consequently our sketch of them will be only short. Andrew Lederach, the ancestor, was a shoemaker by trade; he came to Pennsylvania at an early day and on the 2d of September,

1718, purchased of David Powell a tract of land represented as 100 acres. It was represented as 160 perches long and 100 perches wide. A patent was granted to him July 23, 1735, after the tract had been resurveyed, when it was found to contain 132 acres with the usual allowance of six per cent. for roads and highways. His name also appears in the tax list of 1734, rated for 150 acres, but in 1776 his son, Henry, is rated for 132 acres, which was exactly right.

I need not describe the old Ledrach farm at Ledrachville, as it is generally known. About forty acres of it still belong to John Lederach, but the old homestead with about forty acres belonging to it now belongs to George S. Ziegler, while numerous lots in the village belong to other people, since the greater part of the village is built on land formerly belonging to the farm. The land extended from Morris' road over to the other road along Abraham K. Freed's farm, and down to the jog in the road, or as far down as John Lederach's land extends. Then up the Morris road about fifty perches beyond the Harleysville and Lederachville turnpike, then from that point the line ran due southwest crossing the Skippack road near a one-story house and extended over to the other road.

The old homestead is now considerably out of repair, and it is a pity that it has got into the hands of strangers. Andrew Lederach lived here full forty-one years, and died here in 1759. He had three children namely, one son, Henry, and two daughters, Magdalena and Esther. On March 5th, 1758, he made his last will and testament in writing and therein appointed his only son, Henry, and his son-in-law, John Steiner, to be his executors. The witnesses were Frederick Alderfer, Christian Huntsberger and Andrew Ziegler, who proved its

authenticity December 28, 1759.

He gave to his wife, Magdalena, in lieu of her thirds £100 in money and her free boarding at his son, Henry's, table, and her free lodging in the old house and also her firewood as long as she remained his widow. The said £100 were to be paid out to her by her son, Henry, in annual installments of five pounds each year during her widowhood. He also gave her their bed and the furniture belonging to it, "her own apparal and our large chest which we brought from Germany and our cupboard in the old house." He also bequeathed to her household goods, linen and such things as she would need for her own use. "I give to my son, Henry Lederach, my plantation containing one hundred and thirty-two acres in Lower Salford, whereon I now dwell, which I value to him at three hundred pounds." He explains the matter by saying that only two hundred pounds will be divided into three shares, giving each of his children sixty-six pounds, thirteen shillings and four pence. His daughter, Magdalena, wife of John Steiner, was to receive one third part or £66, 13s, 4d, and his daughter, Esther, wife of Jacob Overholtzer, was to receive the same amount. He also orders that whatever, if anything, of the £100 which he bequeathed to his wife, should be remaining after her death and the funeral expenses were paid, the same should be divided into three equal shares. "It is also my will that my son, Henry, shall have that horse which I have long heretofore promised him, and the old wagon, the horse-gears, the stove in the new room, the table in the same room, and the dresser in the kitchen besides his share, as likewise my Bible and Journal. * * * But then he shall lend a horse to his mother to ride on necessary occasions." There is nothing remembered of the

Journal, nor of the Bible, but the old chest was turned into kindling wood many years ago. All that is remembered of it is traditionary. Henry Lederach undoubtedly was born on this farm and died here December 24th, 1799. His age is not know, but he was probably about eighty years old. His wife, Ann, preceeded him to the grave twenty-three years. She died in 1776. They are both buried in the old Lederach family burial place on the farm. Presumably there must have been some cause for commencing a family burying ground or it would not have been done.

It is probable that one or more children died for Andrew Lederach and were buried there, but it would have been better to remove them into a regularly established burial place if it could have been done after the one at the Mennonite meeting house had been established, than to continue to bury there, and after many years to have the place desecrated and the plow go over it as will be the case here in time to come. How many dead are buried here is not known nor can it be ascertained, but there are not more than six graves visible. At least several Indian Squaws are buried there. The place is at present overgrown with trees and bushes, and undoubtedly there are more graves there than are visible at this late day. The Indians are probably not buried near the Lederach family and their graves may not be visible The land now belongs to Abraham K. Freed.

It is suggested that something should have been said about an old squaw that remained in the Ziegler family as late as the latter part of the last century, in connection with the sketch of the Zieglers. But what shall we say? Her name is not known, but she died and is buried in the Lederach family burial place.

Henry Lederach appears to

have been the last person buried there. His will was dated September 24, 1799, and was proven January 1, 1800. His witnesses were Godshalk Gotshalk and Jacob Ziegler. His son, John Lederach, and his son-in-law, Abraham Shot were the executors. There were seven children in the family, and there names were Molly, Magdalene, Elizabeth, Henry, Catharine, Anna and John.

Magdalene appears to have been one of the oldest of the family; she was born August 9, 1760. She married Henry Price and was the grandmother of Henry P. Reiff, of Lower Salford. She died February 15, 1841, aged eighty years, six months and six days.

Henry was born January 8, 1766. He married Ann Alderfer, and died September 4, 1841.

John was born January 23, 1775. He married Mary Kolb.

There are few people around here who know to whom the others were married, save the one to Abraham Shot, but even which one it was is not known. The time is too short for me to investigate this matter any further at present.

Henry Lederach, who married Ann Alderfer, lived on the Skippack road in Worcester township, about a half mile above Wentz's church, where they owned a large farm. They had six children, namely: Elizabeth, wife of John Moyer, of Rockhill township, Bucks county; Mary, wife of John Bergey, of Worcester; Catharine, wife of Christian Dettera, of Worcester; Ann, wife of David Kratz, also of Worcester; Susanna, wife of Joseph Heebner, of Norriton township, and Henry, who married Lydia Hendricks, of Worcester, where they also lived. They had no issue.

John Lederach had seven children, three sons and four daughters, named Henry, John and Jacob, and the daughters were Elizabeth, wife of Michael

Shoemaker; Catharine, wife of Joseph Fry; Ann, wife of William Young, and ——, wife of Adam Gotwals. She having died so long ago her name is not remembered. Jacob V. Gotwals, of the Norristown Bar, is said to be a descendant of this family.

John Lederach received his father's farm by virtue of his father's will. He lived on the old homstead until about the year 1834, when he built the house where Nathaniel S. Ziegler lives, and laid off nineteen acres of land to it, where he then lived until the time of his death in 1848. He was a deacon in the Mennonite church. He was twice married, first to Mary Kolb, and second to Mary, daughter of John Clemmer.

This was accidently omitted in speaking of the Clemmer family several weeks ago, besides other mistakes that were made. Susanna was the wife of Daniel Boorse, and Catharine, wife of Peter Boorse.

We find that John Lederach and his wife, Mary, sold to their son, Henry, twenty-one acres and 138 perches of land with buildings and improvements, for $1400, and gave a conveyance therefor March 26, 1825. It was that house in which Henry then lived, and is now the dwelling attached to the store of John Lederach. On April 10, 1840, John Lederach and wife, Mary, sold to their son, Henry, eighty-six acres of land in two tracts, one tract of seventy-seven acres and twelve perches, the other tract was nine acres and forty-six perches.

This was the old homestead and a lot at some other place. The old farm was owned by Henry Lederach about twenty years, when he sold the old homestead with about forty acres of land to his son-in-law, Charles Benner, who owned it until a few years ago. It is now owned by George S. Ziegler. About forty acres of land is still owned by John Lederach of the fifth generation. The small

farm now belonging to Nathaniel Ziegler, formerly the property of old John Lederach of the third generation, was purchased by his son, Henry, of the fourth generation, after his death in 1848. Henry Lederach owned this farm some time but then sold it to Harrison Weber. On May 11, 1865, the barn on this farm was struck by a cyclone which passed through the country, and was entirely demolished, and parts of it were scattered over the fields. Much could be said of the damage done by that cyclone, but I will merely mention that four barns in this township were demolished by it, namely: Weber's, Isaac O. Alderfer's and Jacob F. Alderfer's, the latter was a stone barn, and Isaac Rosenberger's near the Skippack, besides a number of other small buildings were demolished and others were damaged by it.

Of Jacob Lederach I can only say that he died in his fifteenth year, in 1825.

Of John, Jr., Jacob and Henry's brother, I can not say much, save that he claimed to be an infidel or atheist until the time of his death when he acknowledged his error. He built that house back of the hill where Isaac N. Clemens now lives, about the year 1845, and died some years later. He also owned a field of four acres of land which he had purchased from his father, in which the family burying ground is located, but in 1850 he and his wife made an assignment to Michael Shoemaker and I. W. Wampole, Esq., for the benefit of his creditors. The assignees then sold the field at public sale to Jacob and John Kinsey. It is now owned by A. K. Freed.

Of Henry Lederach we will have occasion to speak in connection with the village of

LEDERACHVILLE.

This village located "high and dry," on the highest ridge, though not quite on the highest ground in the township, owes

its origin to Henry Lederach, It is located at the crossing of three roads, and at the terminus of the Harleysville and Lederachville turnpike. It contains a hotel, two country stores, a blacksmith shop, harnessmaker, jeweler and other places of business. In connection with the hotel there is a large hall for social gatherings. The village contains about twenty-five dwellings.

The first house in Lederachville was built by John Lederach in 1819, probably for his son, Henry, who apparently was married about that time and worked at his anvil many years, being a blacksmith by trade. He lived in the house which is attached to the store and is owned by his son, John, while his shop was on the other side of the road where the corner house occupied by William Lederach now stands.

Henry Lederach was married to Ann Garges and she, like nearly all the Gargeses, had the knack for making money. Being in a neighborhood distant from stores she commenced a small store in their house. First awhile there were no shelves in the room, for she commenced on a small scale, a large table con- all the dry goods. Groceries and other things were kept in small quantities, and the stock was increased no faster than the funds increased, thus doing a sure and safe business. Gradually, however, as he worked at his trade and she tended her store, the funds increased until they had not only shelves in their room, but the shelves full of goods, and groceries and other things in large quantities, as was becoming to a country store. About that time Dillman Ziegler and his wife, Catharine, who lived where Dillman Bean now lives, built the house up to the corner, now belonging to Jacob K. Freed, intending also to have one of their sons to commence a store. This house was built in 1830, and a man by

name of Buckwalter opened a store therein, which was soon afterward purchased by their son, Jacob O. Ziegler. No sooner was this store running opposition to Lederach that the latter built that large house, now the tavern stand, and took the store into that. But two stores running opposition to each other at this place could not succeed. Nevertheless, to run the game a little further, an acre of ground was laid off for a lot, and the present store house, belonging to Jacob S. Reiff and his son, Henry, was built by Dillman Ziegler. It was about that time that Henry Lederach removed his smith shop and built that house there which is now occupied by his son, William. This house was built in 1834. The dwelling belonging to Reiff's store was built next, and afterterward the house belonging to Samuel Garges. Building up a village to compete with each other, and much travel with heavy teams being on the road at that time, Henry Lederach saw that a tavern would be in place in the village, but as there was a hotel about a mile further up the road where John C. Moyer now lives, another tavern here would only cause opposition and both would fail. Therefore to make sure work and avoid apposition and failure he purchased the hotel above from Jonathan Hoch and wife, Catherine, April 7, 1835.

No sooner did Henry Lederach own the said tavern than he removed the business down to the village where he opened his house and took in all the business which was at the other place and much more besides. Then one year later he and his wife sold the above property to John Alderfer, miller, but in doing so he reserved all the rights against any one opening the house for a tavern. The store was in the hotel building several years before the house was opened for public business or entertainment. Mr. Leder-

ach then owned the hotel until 1853, when he sold it to his son, William, Several years before he sold it the house was occupied by his son-in-law, John Hines, who was a strong Democrat and had an influence with his party. He was elected county treasurer in 1849 and in 1850. He succeeded in having a law passed to have the spring and fall elections always held in Lederachville.

Considerable dissatisfaction was at first felt against this new law which fixed the place of holding the elections permanently at Lederachville. From 1797 to 1824 the people of Lower Salford went to Towamencin to vote for county and state officers, but the township election was held in the township, generally in Harleysville. We are informed that for some time after the change was made the people of Franconia came to Harleysville to vote for state and county officers, but that law did not continue in force very long, until the people of Franconia held the fall elections in their own township. Then the elections were sometimes held at Boorse's tavern, now Mainland, and at other times in Harleysville in a turnabout manner, which gave satisfaction to all parties, but when Hines had his law passed it gave dissatisfaction at first.

William Lederach purchased the hotel from his father in 1853 and then owned it two years and a half, when he sold it to Samuel Bergey and Joseph Musser. They owned it two years and a half also, or until 1858, and then sold it to Jacob O. Bergey, who owned it three years, or until 1861. During those three years the house was occupied by Michael Croll. It was then purchased by Jacob Moyer and Daniel Price, but how long they owned it I could not ascertain. Afterward it was owned one year by Henry Richards, who sold it to John B. Rosenberger. He lived there

at least several years, for he built that large shed and a hall overhead with a tall steeple on the top, but on April 27, 1870, a fire broke out and burnt it away. It was afterward rebuilt. One year later he sold it to Isaac K. Ziegler.

The latter owned the property and run the business twelve years, or until March 29, 1883, when he sold it to Valentine Ziegler, the present owner. As the hotel is not an old one we did not take the time to hunt up the conveyances to give the exact dates of changes and removals.

I must not omit to say something about the stage line running through Lederachville before the railroads were built. This line was owned by Samuel Hartranft, of Norristown. The stage came down from Allentown on Monday morning through Lederachville between eight and nine o'clock a. m. with four horses going to Norristown and returning next day, and so on during the week, always stopping for passengers in Lederachville.

We will now go back again to Ziegler's store. The house now owned by Jacob S. Reiff was built by Dillman Ziegler about the year 1835 for his son, Jacob. He built the store house and dwelling. Jacob O. Ziegler did not commence his business as Lederachs did, and to run opposition against them was run-against the wall. However, when Dillman Ziegler died his sons, Jacob O. and Michael O., were the executors, and they sold the store stand and dwelling with one acre of land to their brother-in-law, Enos Wambold, and gave a conveyance dated, April 9, 1850. With the understanding that Jacob O. Ziegler continue to run the store, which he did yet five years, or until 1855, when he run it out and made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. Then Enos Wambold sold the store stand, the dwell-

ing and lot to Jacob O. Bergey and gave a conveyance April 2, 1856. At that time also Henry S. Hackman and Septimus Kriebel commenced the store business there under the name of Kriebel & Hackman. This firm continued three years, but then Hackman retired and Kriebel continued alone yet one year, when he sold out to George R. Landis, who also at the same time purchased the real estate from Jacob O. Bergey and wife, Deborah, April 9, 1860. The post office was got there in the spring of 1857 and Septimus Kriebel was appointed postmaster. George R. Landis owned this store eleven years, but on April 11, 1871, he and his wife, Susanna, conveyed this property to Jacob S. Reiff, the present owner. On the 11th of August 1880, Mr. Reiff's barn accidently took fire and burnt away. Elias Kulp's house and jewelry store burnt away September 23, 1885.

On June 26, 1867, the young men of Lederachville and vicinity organized a brass band which has existed until now, but they are at present inactive, because they have no leader.

The Lederachville band had been quite successful in acquiring celebrity, for it was considered one of the best bands in the country. They had many engagements and filled many calls from far and near during the time they were active, in practice and had an efficient leader. They have a large, splendid band wagon and all their horns and drums are lying inactive for want of a leader. Some of the members would also wish to retire and have their places filled by younger men. It is, however, probable that by the next presidential campaign they will again be in the field in active service with a a successful leader at their head.

GERHART CLEMENS.

Among the early Mennonites who came to Pennsylvania was Gerhart Clemens, who arrived

here in 1709. He came to Skippack and remained there for some time, but on February 14, 1718, he purchased of David Powel a tract of land containing 300 acres "on the northeast branch of the Perkahomy creek." It being part of 3000 acres granted to the latter by a warrant dated September 10, 1717. After his purchase was made he went into the forest and built his first log cabin on the west side of the aforesaid stream where John Hunsicker now lives. There he lived and labored some time, clearing away the forests and increasing his lands until he had 690 acres which he claimed as his own, and which was confirmed to him by a patent dated the 15th day of April, 1734. It was then bounded by lands and the distances were given as follows: Beginning in a line of Derick Johnson's land, thence by the same and Henry Ruth's land southeast 366 perches, considerably over a mile, to a corner in a line of Mr. Ruth's land; then southwest 320 perches, exactly a mile, by vacant land and lands of Andrew Lederach and Dielman Kolb to a corner: then northeast by land of Hugh Roberts (or Hans Ulrich Berge) 366 perches to a corner; then northeast by vacant land 320 perches to the place of beginning, containing 690 acres. A section of land which is a mile square contains 640 acres, but this tract was fifty acres more with the usual allowance of six per cent. for roads and highways, amounting to forty-two acres, which added thereto made 732 acres. On the southeast side of this great tract there was then a strip of vacant land between what is now the Meeting House lane and the Morris' road. It was then forty perches wide along Henry Ruth's land, and 124 perches in length along Christian Allebach's land, and forty perches wide along Andrew Lederach's land and 124 perches along Clemens' other

land. This tract containing thirty-one acres was purchased by Gerhart Clemens for twenty-nine acres with allowance of six per cent. for roads and highways, and a patent was granted therefor dated June 23, 1735. These thirty-one acres added to 732 made 763 acres of land belonging to Gerhart Clemens. The northeast side thereof along Dirk Johnson's and Henry Ruth's lands was 366 perches in length minus the forty perches of the thirty-one acre tract, which added thereto made that side 406 perches long by old surveys, which generally gave more land in later years.

In 1726 Gerhart Clemens built a grist mill a little farther up the stream than the present site of Groff's mill. He also built a residence there for his oldest son, John. A residence was also built for his son, Jacob, where Rev. Isaac Clemens and Elias R. Landis now live. On June 21, 1738, Gerhart Clemens and his wife, Ann, granted to their son, Jacob, 136 acres in two tracts; one tract being thirty-one acres. The whole length of the northeast side of Jacob's tract bordering Henry Ruth's land was 187 perches. Then on the 26th of September of the same year 1738, Gerhart Clemens and his wife, Ann, granted to their son, John, 151 acres of land with a messuage and a grist mill. From a hickory tree on the Branch creek somewhere not far from where the bridge stands, they run a line northwest 157 perches to a corner of Valentine Kratz's land: then northeast fifty perches to a corner of Dirk Johnson's land; then southeast 232 perches to a corner of Jacob Clemens' and; then by several courses and distances to the place of beginning. It will thus be seen that by resurveys the distances were longer than in the first survey: for the distance along the northeast side of John's tract was 232 perches and the distance continued along

the same side of Jacob's tract was 187 perches, which added together made 419 perches instead of 406, as by the first survey. This shows that the northeast side of his tract was over a mile and a quarter in length, and extended up to the line of Upper Salford. The southwest side was forty perches less in length, but according to more recent surveys it must have been 379 perches, which extended up to the line of Upper Salford.

Running a line northeast along the township line to the north corner of John Clemens' land, one mile distant, will give us some idea of the extent of this great tract of land. This will show us that a portion of the farm now belonging to Milton Alderfer, which then belonged to Valentine Kratz, was included in the tract purchased by Gerhart Clemens; and to a certain extent confirms the tradition still among the Kratzes relating that Valentine Kratz's wife was a Clemens. Her name was Ann, and she probably was a daughter of Gerhart Clemens. The farm belonging to John Wasser and the farm of the late Henry Delp, deceased, now occupied by Jonas W. Shoemaker, and all that tract now belonging to Benjamin Z. Alderfer and the farm until recently occupied by Michael Allebach belonged to the Clemens tract. The greater part of the tract belonging to Jacob S. Groff and Levi Alderfer was included in the tract sold to John Clemens.

On April 3, 1735, Gerhart Clemens and wife sold to William Garges a tract of land comprising in reality sixty-one acres which they represented as fifty-three.

On January 30, 1736, Gerhart Clemens and Ann, his wife, conveyed two tracts of land to two different parties, namely, to George Wagley 159 acres for £50. This now belongs to Benjamin Z. Alderfer—to Valentine Kratz, who probably was

his son-in-law, fifty-three acres for £53. This now belongs to Milton Alderfer. He had sold to William Garges sixty-one acres for £53 the year before. This now belongs to John Wasser and Charles Shoemaker. Those three tracts together comprise 273 acres. One hundred and thirty-six acres they sold to their son, Jacob, as already stated, and 151 acres and a grist mill they sold to their son, John. The remainder, which was 260 acres and forty-five perches, they sold to their son, Abraham, May 20, 1741. These different tracts added together bring the sum of all his acres resurveyed to the snug little number of 824, and according to modern surveys they would number very near 1000. This will show us that Gerhart Clemens was one of the largest land holders in Lower Salford. After disposing of all his lands, it appears Gerhart Clemens and his wife retired, though he was only about sixty-one years of age at that time. He kept a Dairy or Note Book in which are entered many notes. But we do not find any note that appears to have been made by him dated later than 1740. Though there were entries made in the same book later on but they appear to have been made by his son, Jacob, with whom, according to tradition, he lived during the latter years of his life. The residence of Jacob Clemens now belongs to Elias R. Landis, though it is still occupied by Rev. Isaac Clemens, a great-great-grandson of Gerhart Clemens. It is a great pity that the graves of the old Clemenses who are buried at the Salford Mennonite meeting house, have been so sadly neglected that there is no memorial of the time of the death of any one member of the two first generations. Gerhart Clemens says in his diary he was born in 1680 and came to Pennsylvania in 1709. His writing was all in the German language. His father's name was Jacob as will

appear from the following entry: "Anno 1709, March 8, I, Jacob Clemens, gave my son Gerhart by mine own hand on account 126 guilders." Then we have the following: "Anno 1709 March 3, I, John Clemens, have settled with my brother Gerhart Clemens and made every thing balance regarding his purchased goods." This shows that he had a brother, John, who, according to tradition, was a merchant, unmarried, in the city of New York. It is said he also had a brother, Jacob, who lived in Chester county, Pa. Whether the noted "Mark Twain" is a descendent of one of these Clemens families I can not say, but it possibly may be he is. Gerhart Clemens had three sons, Jacob, John, and Abraham, but how many daughters he had we can not say. It is probable that George Wagley to whom he sold 159 acres of land was a son-in-law. It is also probable that the name Wagley has been changed to Fagley, or else the name is extinct in these parts. Here we have an entry in Gerhart Clemens' book having no date, apparently made in Holland. "My father-in-law reckoned to me for the horse 35 rix dollars and for the cow 12 rix dollars. Is that now right?" This was formerly the money of Holland. A guilder was equal to forty cents. Two and a half guilders made one rix dollar, which is equal to $1 U. S. money. We will still add yet a few more notes from his book, thus: "Anno 1709, October 20, I bought a horse from Heinrich Kassel for £3, 7s, and 6d. and it is to be paid by next May." He also has a note stating that he sold a cow to Abraham Hiestand April 15, 1726, for £3, 5s. Then he also has the following: "Anno 1713, January 16, I was with Mathias Van Bebber in Maryland."

"Anno 1723, July 2d. I settled with Jacob Reiff and remain in debt to him for the land

yet £14, 18s.

"Anno 1723, November 15th, I Gerhart Clemens bought from Hans Michael Wagley, a mare, with a young colt for £5."

If it had not been for this book we would never have found out when the first mill was built in Lower Salford, but as it was built by Gerhart Clemens he left some matters on record relating to it, namely, that he made a contract with Jacob Souder March 26, 1726, to built a mill, to be well made and to give good satisfaction, for which he was to receive £33, one half thereof to be paid when the mill was finished and the other half in six months afterward. Then we find that he borrowed money, and also that he paid his debts. Thus, "June 2, 1726, I borrowed £14 from Dringen Sprogel." "November 11, I again borrowed from her in gold five pounds, eight shillings, four pence and three farthings." Then we find that he paid his workmen or laborers. "Anno 1726, June 4. Jacob Galman received for his work £8 from me."—"Again he received £2: £10 are now paid"—"Again he received five pounds and fourteen shillings." Then there is an account of Jacob Galman's labor and at last Galman remains in debt to Clemens two shillings and six pence. Without date we have the following; "I remain in debt to Souder £11." "Anno 1727, February 26, Jacob Souder again received £3 and I remain in debt yet eight pounds and eight shillings." It appears that some of his children were weavers and wove much homespun goods for other people as his numerous accounts in his book show, and this was one of the ways they took to make money where with to pay their debts This much we can say for him that he was a prosperous and successful man. We will yet give a few extracts from his weaver bills. "Anno 1726 March 13. I made a piece of cloth, altogether thirty yards—nine

yards of tow and twenty-one yards of flax for Jacob Garman." (Without date.) "John Lederach's flaxen cloth is thirty-six yards at six pence per yard. The piece of tow cloth which I made is fifteen yards and a half at five pence per yard." (No date.) "For Paul Friet I made a piece of flaxen cloth. It is twenty-three yards at five pence per yard."

The place where the first mill stood is easily recognized for it was built against the hill perhaps one hundred and fifty yards farther up stream than the one which is now standing. It was built in the most economical manner, two stories high. There were no elevators in it; every thing which was to be ground twice had to be carried up stairs to the second story. Customers bringing grists there to be ground drove their teams up hill and unloaded on the second story, while those who fetched their grists, which mostly consisted of flour and bran, received them from the first floor. This mill stood here until 1823, nearly 100 years, when the foundation for the mill which is now standing was laid by John Alderfer. Two years after the first mill was built the Goshenhoppen road was opened which added much convenience to this mill. It crossed the stream just below the present mill. The bridge was built across the stream here in 1835.

There are yet some notes in Gerhart Clemens' book which I did not give to the public simply because they are private accounts and are not interesting, but I have given all that I thought were of ordinary interest. We will now close our sketch of Gerhart Clemens and will yet add that there is nothing to be found in the records of Philadelphia of the settlement of his estate. Apparently he prepared himself for the event of his death by selling out all his lands. He probably died about the year 1744-5,

when he was about sixty-five years of age. A long life or extreme old age does not seem to run in this family as it does in some others. The name Clemens appears to be of Roman origin and signifies mildness, tenderness, gentleness, and the family in general is characteristic of the name. They are generally a well-to-do people and some of them are quiete wealthy.

JACOB CLEMENS.

It has already been stated that on June 21, 1738 Gerhart Clemens and Ann his wife granted to their son Jacob one hundred and thirty six acres and a half of land with buildings and improvements where Rev. Isaac Clemens, one of the descendants still lives. It had been purchased in two tracts; 106 acres thereof were part of 690 acres confirmed by a patent dated April 15, 1734, and twenty-nine acres with allowance of six per cent forroads and highways were granted by a patent, June 23, 1735. It was bounded by lands of Derick Johnson, Henry Ruth, Christian Allebach, Andrew Lederach and Gerhart Clemens. Three years after being the owner of the said land he purchased yet four acres and fifty-four perches from his brother Abraham, over on the Skippack road. This was what was called meadow land, for meadows were an essental part of a farm in those days; the people did not know that they could cultivate other kinds of grass on the fields, and hence were altogether dependent on the meadows for hay and grass. If I mistake not the meadow is at present owned by Isaac N. Clemens; it is located on the west side of the road from his residence. Jacob Clemens and wife Barbara owned this farm thirty years and then sold it to their son Garret Clemens, April 9, 1768. But his meadow he did not sell until June 4, 1782, when his wife Barbara apparently was dead for her name is not on the con-

veyance. Though in his will which is dated December 14, 1779, he devised this meadow to his oldest son, Garret. The latter was only twenty-three years old when he bought his father's farm, and owned it forty-one years. On October 22, 1746, Jacob Clemens purchased the farm containing 202 acres from the executors of Christian Allebach as already related at length in the sketch of the latter, which see for further particulars.

We are unable to tell our readers how many children were born to Jacob Clemens and wife, but the following record is preserved in the family, and certain it is that the names of the children are not all on, for we know of John and Susanna, who were among the youngest of the family, and their names are not on the record: the latter was under age yet when her father made his will in 1779. Three sons and nine daughters are mentioned in the will, and it also appears by the record as if a good many had died young. At least four boys must have died young, because Gerhart or Garret, who was born January 2, 1745, is called the oldest son, he also received the farm and raised a family as will be shown farther on. The following is the partial family record of Jacob Clemens, namely:

A daughter named Ann was born to Jacob Clemens December 30, 1729.

A daughter named Ester was born January 11, 1731.

A son named Michael was born November 12, 1732.

A daughter named Margaret was born January 10, 1734.

Mary was born November 14, 1735.

Barbara was born June 1, 1737.

Jacob was born April 8, 1739.

Two sons, Christian and Gerhart, were born April 21, 1741.

Elizabeth was born February 15, 1743.

Gerhart was born January 2,

1745.

Margaret was born February 9, 1747.

Jacob was born April 12, 1749.

There is a note in the latter part of the diary or memorandum of Gerhart Clemens from which we made extracts in a previous sketch—dated in 1763, stating that Elizabeth was married. She therefore must have been twenty years old at that time, but the name of her husband is not given. There may have been yet a half dozen children whose names were not put down in the family record because Susanna was yet under age in 1779. She probably was born about the year 1760 or later.

It will thus be seen that Garret Clemens, the grandfather of Rev. Isaac Clemens, and John Clemens, the grandfather of his wife, who lived where Rev. Jacob Moyer now lives, were brothers. This fact has been repeatedly denied by the descendants, but facts are stubborn things to deal with. Their father, Jacob Clemens, is buried in the Mennonite burying ground in Lower Salford, but his grave is not known. Garret Clemens had five children, two sons and three daughters. The sons were Jacob and Henry; the daughters were Elizabeth, wife of George Reiff; Sarah, wife of Jacob Reiff, and Catharine, wife of Jacob Shoemaker. Jacob Clemens, of the fourth generation, moved to Chester county, but his brother, Henry, remained on the old homestead. Garret or Gerhart Clemens, of the third generation, born January 2, 1745, died May 1, 1820, aged seventy-five years, four months and one day. His wife, Catharine, born March 8, 1744, died March 6, 1826, aged eighty-two years and two days. About four weeks after their father was dead the children assembled and released or conveyed the farm containing 139 acres and fifty-four perches to their brother, Henry, May 30, 1820,

Henry Clemens added fifty-seven acres to his farm during the time he owned it, *i. e.*, on August 10, 1811, he purchased from the heirs of Abraham Clemens, deceased, namely: Maria Clemens, widow; George Clemens and wife, Catharine; Jacob Clemens and wife, Susanna; Abraham Clemens, weaver; Henry Clemmer and wife Magdalena, of Bedminster, Bucks county, cordwainer, and Jacob Kulp and his wife, Catharine, of Hilltown township, Bucks county thirty-two acres and 150 perches of land. At the same time these same heirs sold to Henry Oberholtzer forty-one acres and thirty-five perches. Then after the death of the latter, his widow, Hannah Oberholtzer, and John Bergey, administrators, sold to Henry Clemens twenty-four acres and sixteen perches of the same land January 23, 1830. A few years later Henry Clemens, after building the house and other buildings where Henry N. Clemens, his grandson, now lives, divided his plantation between his two sons, Garret and Rev. Isaac, who still resides on the premises. Henry Clemens, their father, was married to Ann Kratz; he was born April 11, 1783, and died November 9, 1860, aged seventy-seven years, seven months and twenty-eight days. His wife, Ann, born, July 16, 1780, died February 23, 1861, aged eighty years, seven months and seven days. This farm which belonged to the Clemens family from the very first settlement in 1718, a period of 168 years, was sold to Elias R. Landis one year ago. The farm now belonging to Henry N. Clemens was separated from the main farm by his grandfather, Henry Clemens.

I am informed that during the time this farm was owned by Gerhart Clemens, of the third generation, there was a distillery on these grounds, and it was here yet in the time it was owned by his son, Henry.

ABRAHAM CLEMENS.

It has been stated that the first house built on the Clemens tract was built on the west side of the Branch creek where John Hunsicker now lives, and there Gerhart Clemens and his family lived some time, but after clearing out and cultivating those lowlands on the east side of the stream they built a house over on that side, somewhere near the site of the present residence of George M. Clemens. On May 27, 1741, Gerhart Clemens and wife conveyed 260 acres with buildings and improvements to their son, Abraham, for £270. It was bounded by lands of Jacob Clemens, Andrew Lederach, Dielman Kolb, Hans Ulrich Bergey, George Wagely and John Clemens. It included all that land on the west side of the Morris road and Goschenhoppen road up to the Branch creek and down the other side of the said stream and then across to Hans Ulrich Bergey's land. The line may not have been in the Morris road at all points for it was not laid out then yet, but it is as near as I can tell you now. This land was all confirmed to Gerhart Clemens by a patent dated April 15, 1734, and the conveyance from father to son in 1741 was witnessed by Andrew Lederach, Hans Ully Berge and Robert Jones. Three weeks after owning this land, June 10, 1741, Abraham Clemens and wife, Catharine, granted to his brother, Jacob, four acres and fifty-four perches on the great road. This was what was called meadow land, and is the same meadow now on the west side of the road from the present residence of Isaac N. Clemens. How long Abraham Clemens lived on this plantation I can not say exactly, but I can say that he made his last will and testament in writing dated March 9, 1776, and therein devised his lands to his two sons, Abraham and Jacob. Having sold four acres he then owned yet 256 acres; he devised 180

acres to his son, Abraham, and seventy-six acres and 110 perches to his son, Jacob. His son, George, having already been provided with a farm in some other township had his home, while for his youngest son, Gerhart, who apparently was yet under age no provision for land or for a home was made. Three daughters, it seems, had been married, while three others were yet under age when the will was made, which was probated May 31, 1776, by three witnesses, namely, Jacob Hefflefinger, Christian Berge and John Barkey (Bergey) The executors were his two oldest sons, George and Abraham. The latter was in his twenty-fourth year when his father died. It will thus be seen that Abraham Clemens died at some time before May 31, 1776. It appears that at the time of making his will they were preparing to build a new house near to a spring where the house of George M. Clemens now stands, which was formerly the property of his father, Henry, to whom we are indebted for the loan of a copy of this will, and for other interesting information. The old house, which, of course, was built of logs, stood somewhere farther down on the same side, and was to be moved up to the new one. It was used for a weaver shop in later years. Mention is made in the will about moving the old house up to the spring where the stones for the new one had already been hauled to. It appears that the executors had been orally instructed how to build, and it is also desired by the testator that the family should keep house together yet one year and six months after the date of the will. His widow, Catharine, was provided for in the will with furniture, bed, bedding and other articles, goods for clothing and so forth, as the custom then was to provide, including "my large Bible and Sing Book," which she was to have.

Abraham Clemens had ten children, four sons and six daughters. The sons were George, Abraham, Jacob and Gerhart; the daughters were Ann, Mary, Catharine, Elizabeth, Susanna and Hester. He bequeathed £5 in money to the elders of the Mennonite meeting in Lower Salford for the use of the poor in said meeting, of which he was a member.

It appears that Abraham Clemens had built a house and barn on that part of the farm now belonging to Augustus Espenship, but not where the present residence stands for it stood farther down toward the Branch creek, and that was the messuage and seventy-six acres and 110 perches which was devised to Jacob Clemens. The old homestead containing 180 acres was devised to Abraham Clemens, Jr., but the testator ordered that a certain portion of land containing five or six acres should be cut off from Abraham's tract and should be added to Jacob's. Nine years Jacob owned his tract which was very hilly, but on June 30, 1785, he and his wife, Elizabeth, conveyed it all back to his brother, Abraham. The latter then owned the whole tract containing 256 acres yet about twenty-three years, when he died intestate.

His death occurred September 15, 1808, at the age of fifty-five years, nine months and fifteen days. He was not an old man yet when he died. The name of his widow was Mary, and her maiden name had been Steiner She died September 11, 1823. They had six children, namely, John, George, Jacob, Abraham, Magdalene, wife of Henry Clemmer, of Bedminster, and Catharine, wife of Jacob Kulp, of Hilltown, Bucks county. On February 3, 1810, John, Jacob, Abraham and their two sisters conveyed to their brother, George, the old homestead and 105 acres and 110 perches of land, subject to the payment of

£33, 10s, 2d, 3f, annually to his mother for her support during her natural life. That George was the grandfather of George M. Clemens who now owns the farm.

John Clemens, the oldest of the family and brother to George, was born July 17, 1779, and was not married. He built that house at the road now the residence of John C. Moyer. We have not been able to find the conveyance given him, if at all one had been given, but we are informed that he built that house in 1809. Before it was finished he had a well-digger there who was blasting in the well and accidently set the house on fire and it burnt away. Mr. Clemens immediately went to work and rebuilt the house, but before it was finished, on March 29, 1810, he died, aged thirty years, eight months and ten days. What proceedings were then taken and who settled the estate I can not say at present. Neither can I say whether the house was built for a hotel or whether it was afterward found appropriate for that purpose. It appears that after the death of Mr. Clemens the house and four acres and 130 perches of land was purchased by one Peter Bush, who commenced the hotel business there. As I do not have the date of his purchase, I can not tell you how long he owned it, but can say that on March 24, 1815, he and his wife, Susanna, conveyed the same property to Jacob Heiser, and he, after keeping a a public house there about seven years, died there in 1822. Letters of administration on his estate were granted to Jacob Hallman, Cornelious Tyson and Jacob Heiser. These administrators sold the "tavern stand," as it was called, to John Heiser, who was probably a son of Jacob Heiser, deceased, and gave a conveyance therefor dated April 7, 1823. He owned this property five years, and on March 7, 1828, John Heiser and his

wife, Mary, conveyed this hotel and lot of land to Jacob Fisher, of Maxatawny township, Berks county. The latter owned it six years, but did not live here long if he lived here at all. It was during the time that he owned it that Samuel E. Hartranft, father of ex-Governor John F. Hartranft, lived here.

Mr. Fisher was a resident of the borough of Kutztown, Berks county at the time he sold this tavern. He and his wife Elizabeth, transferred this property to Jonathan Hoch, of Lower Salford, April 19 1834. The latter owned it only one year when he and his wife, Catharine, as already stated in a former sketch, conveyed it to Henry Lederach, April 7, 1835. One year later, April 1, 1836, Henry Lederach and wife, Ann, conveyed the same premises to John Alderfer, miller, and in doing so closed all rights against keeping a public house or house of entertainment there, which made an end to the tavern. John Alderfer owned this lot fourteen years. It was during those years that a small store was kept there. Charles Hendricks kept a store here some time, but how long I cannot say. John Alderfer, bachelor, sold this lot to Elizabeth Kriebel, for $1200, April 1, 1850. She owned it perhaps eight years and then sold the same to Jacob O. Bergey in 1858. He occupied this place about nine years but on February 24, 1862, this property was sold by Francis Kile, high sheriff, to Solomon Snyder and Peter B. Boorse for a claim held against the said Bergey by Stephen Smith and Stephen Schlosser, trading together as Smith & Schlosser. Snyder and Boorse then sold the property to Deborah, wife of Jacob O. Bergey.

It appears that several tracts were added thereto during the time it was owned by Bergey and his wife, amounting in all to twenty-two acres. It was then sold by Edwin N. Beysher,

high sheriff of Montgomery county, to Peter Hunsperger, and a conveyance was given dated November 18, 1867. Ten years later Peter Hunsperger purchaser yet twenty-one additional acres from Jacob S. Groff, and a deed was given dated March 30, 1878, making a farm of forty-three acres.

He owned this place nearly twenty years, though it was occupied by his son, Abraham, part of the time—and sold it only this spring, April, 1887, to John C. Moyer.

The lane leading to the residence of George M. Clemens is not where it was when his grandfather, George Clemens, went in and out there. It was down that little stream back of the barn that Michael Ziegler, known as "Smoke Mike," died in the beginning of this century. His wife had been a daughter of Jacob Clemens and his farm would have been all that land included in the farm of Anthony Garges and the greater part of the farm of Peter Garges, but on account of disobedience to his father, as already stated in the sketch of the Zieglers, he was given only that lot now belonging to Henry and Andrew Delp. As he claimed relationship with the Clemenses he went down there on a visit, and in crossing that little stream was suddenly overtaken with paralysis or some fit of sickness and sunk down with his face in the water and was drowned or died as he fell. He started out in life with bright hopes and a rich wife, but he became dissolute and disobedient by indulgence in liquor, and here his wayward career came to an end.

It has been stated that Abraham Clemens at the time of his death in 1808 owned yet 256 acres of land. The old homestead with 105 acres 110 perches of land in two tracts was conveyed to his son, George Clemens, by the other heirs February 3, 1810, as already stated. On August 10, 1811, forty-one

acres and thirty-five perches were conveyed to Henry Overholtzer, who was the father-in-law to George Clemens. On the same day, August 10, 1811, thirty-two acres and 150 perches were conveyed to Henry Clemens, father of Rev. Isaac Clemens. After the death of Henry Overholtzer, in 1829, his administrators sold the aforesaid tract of land in two tracts, January 23, 1830. The said Henry Clemens purchased about twenty-four acres thereof, and the remainder, being seventeen acres and nineteen perches was purchased by George Clemens. This then raised his number of acres in his farm to 122 acres and 129 perches.

On February 3, 1810, John, George and Abraham Clemens, Magdalena, wife of Henry Clemmer, of Bedminster, and Catharine, wife of Jacob Kulp, of Hilltown, Bucks county, conveyed, by release, to their brother, Jacob Clemens, a messuage and seventy-six acres and 100 perches of land. It was the same tract and dwelling which had been devised to his uncle, Jacob, thirty-four years previously, in 1776. Jacob Clemens owned that farm fifteen years, and in that while built that house there, for the first house stood farther down toward the Branch creek. The messuage and thirty-five acres of the same farm now belongs to Augustus Espenship. On April 7, 1825, Jacob Clemens and wife, Susanna, sold their plantation to Henry Ziegler, for £1100 or $2933.33. The latter and his wife, Elizabeth, sold three acres and twenty-two perches to George Clemens, August 10, 1825. Jacob Clemens, after selling his farm, removed to Canada. Henry Ziegler owned this farm thirty-two years, when he and his wife sold the same, still containing seventy-one acres and eighty-four perches, to William Lederach, for $4649.12, March 31, 1857. After owning it twenty-eight

years Mr. Lederach sold the messuage and thirty-five acres of land to their son-in-law, Espenship, the present owner, the remainder of the land still belongs to Lederach.

George Clemens, who purchased his father's plantation after his demise, in two tracts of ninety-five acres and 150 perches and nine acres and 120 perches, in 1810, owned this farm thirty-three years, but on February 6, 1843, he died intestate, in his fifty-seventh year. Letters of administration were granted on his estate, to his two sons, Henry and Abraham, who settled the estate. There were eight children, but as some of them are still living we will not mention their names, excepting John O Clemens, the very successful and worthy director of the poor of this county. Henry was the oldest son and had the right to take the farm at the appraisement. But as Henry and Abraham were brothers it so happened that Abraham also wanted some land, so they cut off thirty-four and acres 101 perches to the residence now owned by John Huusicker, where the first house had stood back in 1817. It appears that only about ten acres were considered as belonging to that messuage formerly, though it was all held to the plantation, and in making the division those three acres purchased from Henry Ziegler and wife in 1825 were included in this tract. As Abraham wanted this tract, but as administrator he could not buy it, it was purchased for him by Christian Bergey, for $1941.08. A conveyance was granted first to Bergey and then from Bergey and wife to Abraham Clemens, April 1, 1844. After owning this farm eleven years Abraham Clemens and wife, Mary, sold the same, by that time containing thirty-nine acres and nineteen perches of land with improvements, to Christian Souder, for $2900, March 29, 1855. Abraham Clemens after-

ward removed to Canada and drowned there. His widow, whose maiden name was Mary Nice, with her children then returned to her old friends in Pennsylvania, where she is still living.

Christian Souder and wife, Barbara, after owning this property two years sold the same to Abraham Benner, for $3100, April 8, 1857. He still made money by the transaction, but Abraham Benner was the loser, for one year later, March 4, 1858, he and his wife, Caroline, made an assignment to Jacob J. Markley and Jacob O. Bergey, for the benefit of his creditors. These assignees sold this farm at public sale, October 1, 1858, to Enos Moyer, for $2085. But as Mr. Moyer could not comply with the conditions the said assignees on February 4, 1859, sold this property to Henry Kriebel, for the same sum of money, and on April 22d ensuing gave a conveyance therefor. Henry Kriebel did not own this farm many years, but how long I cannot say, until he sold it to John Hunsicker, the present owner. In later years several small tracts of land were added to this farm.

JOHN CLEMENS.

It has already been stated that Gerhart Clemens and wife, Ann, conveyed to their son, John, a certain messuage and grist mill on the Branch creek, with a plantation containing 151 acres of land, on September 26, 1738. Though the mill was built already in 1726 and was probably run by their son, John, it was not conveyed to him until twelve years later. The courses and boundaries have also been given in a previous article and the names of adjoining land owners, if not given, were George Wegly, Valentine Kratz, Dirk Johnson and Jacob and Abraham Clemens. John Clemens owned this valuable property twenty-six years; but some time after the death of his wife he sold the whole of it to

Frederick Alderfer, May 5, 1764. It appears from the diligent investigations of Edward Mathews, of the North Wales *Record*, that John Clemens, about the same time he sold his mill property purchased of Ellis Hugh, in the eastern part of Gwynedd and partly in Horsham township, a farm containing 136 acres. He owned it only two years and then sold it to his son, Garret Clemens, in 1766. The latter held this farm twenty-seven years, or until 1793, and then removed to Germantown. Mr. Mathews informs us that the old house in which John Clemens resided is still standing, though uninhabited. It is a curious building partly standing in the highway.

Peter Keyser, the distinguished Dunkard preacher, of Philadelphia and Germantown, married Catharine Clemens, a daughter of Garret Clemens who at that time lived on his farm in East Gwynedd. She was born May 14, 1770. I am informed that she had a brother, Jacob. How many more children were in the family, or how many children were in her family I am not prepared to say. Peter Keyser died May 21, 1849, aged eighty-three years. His wife, Catharine, died June 6, 1854, aged eighty-four years and twenty-two days. They are buried in Germantown. The branch of the family descending from John Clemens might easily be hunted up.

It never was good for a man to be alone, nor is it the will of God that it should be so; this also was the experience of John Clemens, and therefore to amend or improve his condition in life he took to himself another wife in the person of the widow Markley.

George Markley owned the farm now belonging to Mr. Freeman, near the Skippack and near to what was formerly known as Shoemaker's corner, in East Perkiomen now Skippack township. He made

his last will and testament in writing dated May 10, 1762, and therein appointed his wife, Catharine, sole executrix, and devised all his estate to her. His farm of 150 acres he had reduced to twenty by selling off 130 acres. The messuage and twenty acres fell to his wife. It appears they had no children, and she afterward married John Clemens. Mention has been made of this matter in one of the first sketches under the heading of Michael Ziegler in connection with George Reiff. On September 18, 1772 John Clemens and his wife, Catharine, conveyed their small farm to Edward Updegrave, for £225. This is all I can tell you about John Clemens excepting what we have traditionary, and that is that he spent much of his time playing a musical instrument which was known among the Germans by the name of *zither*. The instrument was quite popular among the early Germans and very much resembled a guitar.

Frederick Alderfer owned this mill property and plantation twelve years, or from May 5, 1764, until July 1, 1776, when he sold the grist mill with improvements to his son, John. Four years previous, on May 26, 1772 he had purchased the farm containing 159 acres from George Schambach and wife, Sibilla, for £850, which now belongs to Benjamin Z. Alderfer. This farm including another tract of fifty-one acres in Upper Salford, Frederick Alderfer conveyed to his son, Jacob, at the same time, July 1, 1776, for £1050. The conveyance given to his son, John, was acknowledged before Michael Croll, May 26, 1785, and was witnessed by Gerhart Clemens and Jacob Alderfer.

As these farms, lands and mill still belong to some of the Alderfer family we will not have much more to say about them. The dates of conveyances from one to the other we do not have.

nor do I consider it important in this case. The house on the farm now belonging to Levi Alderfer, was built by John Alderfer for his son, Abraham, in the year 1807, and the barn in 1808. The farm belonged to Abraham Alderfer many years and after him to his son, Jacob, and since his demise to his son, Levi, the present owner. In 1865, when the barn was rebuilt a man by name of Metzger, a German, was accidently killed by a portion of the old wall falling upon him.

The old mill which had stood ninety-seven years was taken down and rebuilt by John Alderfer in 1823. How long he owned this property I cannot say. His son, John, owned it after him until he was old, when he sold it to his brother, Abraham's son, Benjamin, who owned it many years and then sold it to his son-in-law, Jacob S. Groff, the present owner. The latter built an addition to the mill and otherwise greatly improved it, insomuch that it is now one of the best mills in the country. He was one of the first millers in these parts to add steam to his water power to ficilitate the business.

HANS MICHAEL WAGLY.

The farm belonging to Benjamin Z. Alderfer including also the farm recently belonging to Christian M. Allebach was originally all included in the great tract purchased by Gerhart Clemens. On January 30, 1736, it was conveyed by the latter and his wife to George Wagley. But it appears probable from several circumstances that the land had been purchased several years previous by Hans Michael Wagly and that payment was made by annual enstallments. The price paid for it was very low in comparison to other tracts. It was 159 acres for £50 in money: when at the same day, January 30, 1736, fifty-three acres were conveyed to Valentine Kratz, for £53. By referring to the

tax list of 1734 we find in Salford the name of Hans Michael Wagly rated on 100 acres; and in the conveyance given by Gerhart Clemens and wife to William Gerges in 1735, the land on the one side is not bounded by land of George Wagly, but of Michael Wagly. From these several circumstances it would appear as if the land had been purchased by Michael Wagly from Gerhart Clemens perhaps as early as 1720 in consideration of the low price paid for it, but that the conveyance was then made to George Wagley. Gerhart Clemens in his notes has the following entry: "Anno 1723, November 15, I Gerhart Clemens bought from Hans Michael Wagly a mare with a young colt for £5." It is possible that he then already lived at that place. George Wagly owned this farm twenty-three years, but on August 24, 1750, he and his wife, Margaret, conveyed this property, so nicely located, to George Schambach, for £45[illegible].

It would appear as if George Wagly had been quite successful during the time he lived here, for in pursuance of a warrant dated October 20, 1742, there was surveyed to George Wagly, who by mistake was called John George Weiger a tract of land containing fifty-one acres in Upper Salford, which was confirmed by a patent dated November 3, 1743, in the seventeenth year of the reign of King George the second. This tract, by all appearance, was located westward from Salfordville, and was then bounded by lands of George Wagoner, Isaac Klein, John Wagoner and John George Weiger. This shows us that John Isaac Klein, of whom we had much to say in History of Harleysville, also owned the Klein property at that place at that time already, for those Kleins are a branch of the same family. In 1772 the same tract was bounded by lands of John Frost, Theodore Wolker, Henry Boyer and Mr. Klein.

When, therefore, George Wegly sold his farm to George Schambach, he also sold to him the tract in Upper Salford, but by a separate conveyance. What afterward became of these Waglys or Weglys, or whether the name has been changed to Fagly or Fegly, I can not say.

George Shambach owned this farm thirteen years and then drifted down to Towamencin. On May 26, 1772, he and his wife, Sibilla, conveyed their farm still represented as 159 acres to Frederick Alderfer, for £850, The tract in Upper Salford was also conveyed to him, though seperately, at the same time. We ought perhaps to say something of the bounds of the main farm. From a corner of Valentine Kratz's land the line run southwest along the same and William Gerges' land 244 perches, not over to the road by forty or fifty perches, for more recently Michael Alderfer purchased a strip of five acres additional along the road from the Garges' estate—from the point last mentioned the line extended southeast along the same and Hans Ulrich Bergey's land 109 perches to a corner of Gerhart Clemens' land; then by the same northeast 114 perches to the Branch creek, then up the same by several courses 130 perches to a hickory tree on the northwest side of the said stream; then from the said tree northwest eighty-two perches to the place of beginning. The same bounds continued the same for over a century.

From 1772 to the present time this has been an Alderfer farm—115 years—and the prospects are now for at least another half century of the same nominal ownership. Frederick Alderfer owned this farm only four years, and then sold it to his oldest son, Jacob, for whom the farm had been purchased. The fifty-one acre tract in Upper Salford was this time included in the same conveyance dated July 1, 1776, and described

in two seperate tracts. The price paid was £1050. After owning this farm sixteen years Jacob Alderfer and his wife, Elizabeth, sold the same to Benjamin Alderfer, his nephew April, 1792. Jacob then removed down to the Little Branch on the farm which he had purchased from Gabriel Shuler, as stated in the sketch of the latter. Benjamin Alderfer lived here until 1840 and then died here. He made his will dated February 22, 1834, and therein appointed his son, Michael, and his son-in-law, Isaac Kratz, to be the executors. Michael received the farm which he owned many years and then transferred it to his son, Benjamin Z., the present owner. This farm is beautifully located, has excellent buildings, is well supplied with water and extensive meadows while the land is in a high state of cultivation, which makes it one of the finest and most valuable farms in the township.

JOHN WILLIAM GERGES.

We will say in the outstart of this sketch that we are greatly indebted to Mr. William Garges, of Salfordville, for much interesting matter contained in this sketch. He having become interested in the history of his forefathers has collected considerable material relative to the history of the family. We find the name variously written, as Gergas, Gargas, Gorgas, Gerkis and Georgens. There is the name of people in this county written Garrigus, which very probably is also a branch of the family

John William Gergas was a native of Studerbry, a small unnoted place in the Dutchey of Berg, in Westphalia, where he was born in the year 1704. After he had grown up and was married he concluded to emigrate to America with his wife and child, and then applied to the proper official for a passport or certificate of travel to Pennsylvania, which was granted.

It was written in German in such a flourishing style that it can not be easily read, but it amounts in substance to the following in English: "After John William Georgens, until now a subject at Studerbry in this country under *Hoch Graff* jurisdiction, represented that he was willing to emigrate with his wife and child to Pennsylvania and to settle down there in obeidence; praying us for a Christian testimonial, or certificate of his good behavior, we therefore accordingly camply with the same and at the same time recommend that in accordance with all conditions of propriety all diligence be given to render all possible assistance to John William Georgens on his proposed journey, which under similar and other circumstances we are in duty bound to do. Given under the customary signature and engraved seal, *Cantzley Ensiegel*. Durkheim, the 19th of April, 1731. Hochgraff Leininger, Hardenbt, Cantzley.

Durkheim is a town in the Palatinate of the Rhine. On the great red seal which is about two inches in diameter, engraved in an ellipse near the outer edge, in small Latin capitals, is the following: "*Hoch Graff Leininger, Hartenburg, Canzl, Insiegel.*" There is another small, apparently insignificant red seal with serrated edge on the outside of the sheet containing the passport. Hardenburg in Westphalia is an inland town of some little note thirteen miles from Dusseldorf, which is located on the Dussel river near its confluence with the Rhine.

As William Gargas was among the number here referred to, we quote the following from Rapp's "Thirty Thousand Names," page 67: "While the synod of South Holland was in session in Dort, 1734 800 exiled Palatines passed through the place to take ship at Rotterdam for America. They were vis-

ited by the whole synod in a body and were furnished by them with provisions and medicines. After Christian exhortation, prayer and singing, they were dismissed with the assurance that they might rely on the church of Holland for support in their new abode."

By all appearance William Garges and wife must have had a long and wearisome journey, for it was not before the 21st of September, 1731, about five months after obtaining his passport, that they arrived in Philadelphia in the ship Britania, an English vessel, of London, from Rotterdam, with Captain Michael Franklin. For several years after the arrival we do not hear anything of them until we find them settling down near a spring of lasting water on a tract of land belonging to Jacob Enger, of Salford, where John Wasser now lives. He then purchased an adjacent tract from Gerhart Clemens which by metes and bounds contained sixty acres.

This tract for which he received a conveyance from Gerhart Clemens and wife, April 3, 1735, is represented as only fifty-three acres. and was purchased for £45. Not satisfied with a small tract he purchased from Jacob Engar and wife, Ann, 100 acres more for which he received a conveyance dated April 5, 1735. This land still belongs to the Gergas family. The sum paid for it was £80. From the conveyance here given we learn an important matter in regard to the settlement or purchase of Hans Ulrich Bergey where William Wendler now lives; though he is only called John Ulrich, the same as in the conveyance in the Bergey family. This conveyance recites that the said 100 acres are part of a tract of 250 acres of land, situated on the Perkeawming creek, which Hugh Roberts, of the city of Philadelphia, cooper, and Rachael, his wife, by certain indentures of lease and release

dated March 16, 1726, did grant to John Ulrich and that two years later the said John Ulrich and Mary, his wife, by their indenture dated January 26, 1728, granted to Jacob Enger the said 100 acres, which the latter and wife granted to William Gergas April 5, 1735. This tract was rectangular in shape extending 144 perches along Hans Ulrich Bergey's land and 118 perches along Gerhart Clemens' land. On the two other sides the land was called vacant land then yet. By reference to the taxlist of 1734 we find the name of Hans Ulrich Bergey in Salford, but it is written Hans Woolyberge, and the name Jacob Enger is Jacob Ingress. Such mistakes they then made in writing names that they are hardly known at this day. This settles the matter in regard to the time of Hans Ulrich Bergey's purchase being in 1726, and not in 1746 as stated in the conveyance in the family, where the date undoubtedly has been altered, and this seemed to me the only place to correct the mistake.

In the passport of William Gergas his wife and child are mentioned; this child, it appears, must have died, and perhaps one or more besides yet, for Conrad was the oldest of those living, and he was born February 10, 1735. There were eight children living named Conrad, Ann Mary, William, Abraham, Henry, George, Jacob and Salome. Their father, J. William Gergas, died in 1752, in his forty-ninth year. He must have died near the end of the year, because we find that Christian Schneider, of Marlborough township, made an oversignment as it is called, which appears to be equivelant to an assignment of all his real estate consisting of a farm containing forty-two acres—to William Gergas, November 28, 1752. But as he died soon afterward, the assignment must have been transferred to some other person.

William Gergas had a sister, Elizabeth, who came from Germany and died here, June 27, 1763. Her age is not known. She is buried at the Goschenhoppen church, where the greater part of her brother. William',s family is buried. After the death of J. William Gergas his widow, Margaret Gergas run the farm yet twelve years when she also died. We have much material on hand relative to those twelve eventful years. She appears to have been a pretty shrewd manager. Her son, George Gergas, was an inn-holder, in Marlborough township, where he owned 144 acres of land, now belonging to Ames Allebach. He became involved in debt and the sheriff seized and sold his farm, but his mother, Margaret Gergas, bought it at sheriff sale for him. It is said this gave occasion for the farm where they lived to be sold by the sheriff. I must acknowledge that I do not exactly understand how it was, but understand plain enough that their farm was sold by the sheriff and that she was the purchaser. It appears there was a debt of £260 on the farm and then John Wister brought yet a claim of 62s and 5d against them which probably was the expense. First a writ of *fieri facias* was granted to the Sheriff, James Coultes, for the city and county of Philadelphia, but as he did not collect the claim, a certain other writ of *venditioni exponas* was issued by the court of Philadelphia, dated June 6, 1758, when after due notice had been given, the farm was sold at public sale, September 6, 1758, to Margaret Gergas for £225. She made money by the operation by buying a debt of £263, 2s, 5d, for £225, thus clearing £38 or $101.33. She then gave a mortgage to John Wister for the balance, which she continued to pay off until she died, and directed in her will, which was dated February 13, 1765, that her three children,

William, Abraham and Ann Mary should keep house together with her estate yet two years after the 1st of April, 1765, or until April 1, 1767.

She died March 25, 1765, and is buried by side of her husband at the Goshenhoppen church. She directed in her will that those three children already named should work together those two years and cancel the mortgage which she had given to John Wister in order to give a clear title to the property. By the 1st of April, 1767, they were to make public sale for all her real and personal property which, however, they did, March 6, 1767. But in case those three children refused to keep house together they were to sell the property immediately after her death. She gave to William £30, to Abraham £25 and to Mary £15, all in advance for their obedience to her; and in case they would keep house together as directed, William was to have £20 and Abraham and Mary each £15 more in advance. But in case any one of the three would refuse to keep house as directed, he or she was not to have any of the advance money for house keeping. After these sums were deducted in advance the remainder of the estate was to be equally divided among her six children, namely, Conrad, Ann Mary, William, Abraham, Henry and Salome. Her two sons, George and Jacob, are not mentioned in the will. The farm, after it was sold, was to be paid for by annual installments in such a way that one child received his full share after the other and that when the property was paid for the heirs all had their full shares. At the time of making her will her oldest son, Conrad, was a resident of Frederick county, Md., and she had lent him £87, which, with the interest, was to be part of his share. Her will was proven May 7th, 1765, and William and Abraham were the executors.

The conditions of public sale for the real estate of Margaret Gergas, deceased, held March 6, 1767, were such that on or before May 27th, the purchaser was to pay £200 lawful money, and after that annually £100 on May 27th, until the full purchase money was paid. The farm brought £900. William was the purchaser. Their oldest son, Conrad, signed the release May 24, 1769. It is very much like an indemnifying bond, wherein he acknowledged that he received his full share in the sum of £182, 13s, 9d and 3f. At that time he still lived in Frederick county, Md. On April 9, 1776, Abraham Gergas, one of the executors, and his wife, Elizabeth, gave a conveyance to his brother, William, for the farm still represented as containing 153 acres. By that time all the heirs had signed a release, except Jacob, who was not married, and died two years later. The oldest son, Conrad, was married to a daughter of George Strohbaugh, who, as you will recollect lived where Benjamin Z. Alderfer now lives. His wife died in Maryland. Afterward he returned and married a second time. His second wife was a widow. They then lived on the Ridge road, in Upper Salford, where George Beltz now lives; but afterward bought the farm in Lower Salford, where Solomon Wasser lives, and lived there many years, and finally died there January 10, 1816.

It was during the time that they lived there that an Irish woman, a pauper, laid in with them, as appears from the township book of Lower Salford, which can be seen in the library of Abraham H. Cassel. The statement of the matter is as follows:

This is to certify that Conrad Gerkes has engaged to keep a young woman that has thrown herself on the township of Lower Salford for the space of four weeks after her lying in and is to have $16 for providing every necessary provision that should be thought necessary for a person in her condition, that is to say, that he, the said Conrad Gerkes, is to keep her from the 28th day of July, 1801, until four weeks after her being brought to bed, as witness my hand this 28th of this instant, July, 1801. CONRAD GERGAS.

WITNESS PRESENT:
George Heydrick
Frederick Alderfer.

LOWER SALFORD, }
November 21, 1801. }

Received by the hands of Frederick Alderfer, one of the overseers of the poor of the township above said for the keeping of a certain Sarah McMathers, a pauper, the sum of six pounds, it being the full satisfaction for me for keeping of the said pauper during her childbed and the time I kept her at my house.

I say received by me.

$16. CONRAD GERGAS.

The overseers of the township of Whitpain to the overseers of the the township of Lower Salford. Dr.

1801.	
August 3. To expenses for burying the child of Sarah McMathers,	$4 00
To expenses for midwife,	1 00
August 13. To expenses for burying Sarah McMathers, the pauper, to count,	3 80
To expenses for serving notices on the overseers of Whitpain township for the appeal,	1 20
	$10 00

GEORGE HEYDRICK,
Overseer of the poor of the township of Lower Salford.

This shows us how the poor were provided for in those days before we had a poor house in Montgomery county.

Conrad Gergas had two children, both daughters, by his second wife. One of them married John Sheitel, who lived on the same farm after Conrad Gergas and died there as already stated in the sketch of John Vincent Meyer. Sheitel had a son, Isaac, and his descendants are still living. The other daughter married a man by name of Snyder, in Towamencin.

Conrad Gergas died January 10, 1816, aged eighty-one years and four months. His wife, Margaret, survived him yet until June 24, 1836. During those twenty years his unsettled estate was in the hands of Benjamin Reiff, Esq. The amount of his estate was $2234.83. The age of Margaret Gergas was ninety one years and eleven months. They are buried at Wentz's church. At the funeral the Rev. Frederick William von der Schlotte, Jr., of the Goschenhoppen church officiated.

We saw a statement somewhere giving an account of the settlement of the estate of Conrad Gerges by Benjamin Reiff, in 1833, and stated the matter so in connection with the farm of Solomon Wasser, under the head of John Vincent Myer.

But Mr. William Gergas has a manuscript giving the date of the death of Margaret Garges in 1836, as above stated.

Ann Mary, the second child of William and Margaret Gergas, born May 5, 1740, married John Hiltebeitel, of Frederick township, and left some children. They owned a farm in the aforesaid township not far from Ziegler's mill. She died December 10, 1815, aged seventy-five years, seven months and five days. He died March 4, 1817, aged eighty-one years seven months and two days.

William, the third child of William and Margaret Gergas, born August 22, 1742, married Jacobina Achenbach, though her name on her marriage certificate is Philipina, as the following will show:

LECTORI BENEVOLO SALUTEM.

I do certify that William Gerges, of Lower Salford township, Philadelphia county, bachelor, and Philipina Achenbach, of Frederick township, spinster, were lawfully joined together in holy matrimony this third day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight.

Given in Germantown township, Philadelphia county.

Witness my hand and seal,

MICHAEL SCHLATTER,
Minister of the Gospel.

William Garges lived on the old homestead where John Wasser now lives. The second house built on that farm was erected in 1744 and stood until 1843, ninety-nine years. The other buildings where Henry Gergas lives are of recent erection. William and Jacobina Gergas had four children named Abraham, William, John and Jacob. William Gergas did not live to be old. He made his will November 18th, 1793, and therein appointed his brother, Abraham, to be his executor. He died February 22, 1794, aged fifty-two years and six months. He ordered in his will that his wife, Jacobina, should keep house with his estate until his oldest son, Abraham would arrive at lawful age, then the farm was to be appraised by six men, who reported its value, March 8, 1803, at £2000; which was accepted by his two sons, Abraham and William, together.

Abraham, the fourth child of William and Margaret Gergas,

married Elizabeth, a daughter of, George Ziegler, of Upper Salford, near Tylersport. They lived in Perkiomen township, near Skippackville, where Henry Swartley now lives. They had no issue. He died October 4, 1812, aged about sixty-eight years. But his wife, Elizabeth, who was blind a number of years in her old age, survived him until July 19, 1836, when she died, aged eighty years six months and seven days. They are buried at the Goshenhoppen church.

Henry, the fifth child of William and Margaret Garges, married Salome, daughter of Hans Ulrich Bergey. She was called Sally in the release and most likely generally went by that name, but on her gravestone she is called Sarah. But that is nearly similar to Philipina being called Jacobina. They removed to Doylestown township and are buried in the Mennonite cemetery near that borough. They had four children, two sons and two daughters; one of them married a Moyer and the other a Geil. Henry Gergas born February 27, 1747 died February 27, 1798, aged fifty-one years. His wife, Sarah, or Salome, born August 31, 1753, died April 22, 1833, aged seventy-nine years, eight months and twenty-two days.

George, the sixth son of William and Margaret Garges, lived in Marlborough township, where he kept a hotel near Greenlane. Who his wife was is not known, though it is known that they had children. He died December 22, 1769. He is buried at the Goshenhoppen church.

Jacob, the seventh in the family of William and Margaret Gergas, was never married; he died in 1778, and is buried at the Goshenhoppen church.

Salome the youngest in the family of William and Margaret Gergas, married Abraham Bergey. They lived in Limerick township, where they owned a large farm containing 200 acres.

She died November 20, 1782. They are buried at Keely's church.

Abraham and William Gergas of the third generation received their father's plantation at £2000 or $5333 33, the price it was valued at by six men in accordance with the directions given in their father's will. They owned this farm together in common eleven years, but on February 9, 1814, they divided the farm, and Abraham Gergas and his wife, Elizabeth, conveyed to his brother, William, the old homestead with ninety-one acres and a half of land in two tracts of seventy-one acres and eighty perches and twenty acres, for £2058, 15s. At the same time William Gergas and his wife, Mary, conveyed to his brother, Abraham, eighty-nine acres and 150 perches, of land, for £2023, 11s, 6d. It will thus be seen that on a resurvey of these lands the whole tract contained 181 acres and seventy perches instead of 153 acres as at first represented. Abraham Gergas put the first buildings on the farm now owned by his son, Henry, who is already well advanced in years. William Gergas owned the old homestead until the time of his death, which occurred in 1834, and then his widow continued holding the farm until 1840, when the estate was settled. In 1840 Ephraim Herpster, a son-in-law, took the whole farm at the appraisement, which was $4950, and Michael Alderfer went his security. Herpster then sold off four or more tracts reducing the farm to thirty-three acres, nearly what it now is. Michael Alderfer purchased several tracts from Herpster and built that house which is now occupied by Jonas W. Shoemaker.

Herpster then sold the old homestead to old Abraham Gergas and gave a conveyance therefor dated April 2, 1841. The latter owned this farm eleven years, but built a new house there in 1843, after the old one

had stood ninety-nine years. This is now the third house that is there. The first, of course built of logs, stood on the other side of the meadow and on the other side of the road, on land now belonging to Henry Gergas.

Then on March 15, 1852, Abraham Gergas conveyed this farm to Henry Musselman, who owned it nine years and then conveyed it to William Delp, January 26, 1861. This is now the third barn, and it was built by Henry Musselman. The second was built by William Gergas of the third generation, but it accidently took fire and burnt away about the year 1859. Delp owned it seven years and then conveyed it to John Wasser, the present owner, April 13, 1868. The farm of Henry Gergas has now belonged to the Gergas family 152 years,

We have already mentioned that William and Jacobina Gergas had four children, named Abraham, William, John and Jacob. Of Abraham and William we have just finished relating, and will now tell you that John died intestate and without issue about the time he became of lawful age. Jacob Gergas and his mother, Jacobina, purchased the farm containing ninety-six acres from Andrew Ziegler, where his son, Anthony Gergas, now lives, April 14, 1810, as already related in the sketch of the Zieglers. He stood by his mother and she assisted him. She died July 4, 1835, aged seventy-eight years, five months and thirteen days. She is buried at the Goshenhoppen church. Jacob Gergas married Elizabeth Custer and raised eight children. He died July 4, 1864, in the seventy-third year of his age. She died October 10, 1873, aged nearly eighty-one years. They are buried at the Christ church in Towamencin.

The Gergases have been smiths ever since they settled here, and there has been a shop on this farm almost ever since

there was a dwelling there. They occasionally took an apprentice to learn the trade. Some years ago they had a raw apprentice whom some of the hands wanted to learn how to catch "Elpatritches" on a cold winter night. Late in the evening when they quit work he was to commence by standing outside at a cold corner of the shop holding open a bag while the others would go around and drive them in but when they had him at his place they ran into the house and in doing so frightened a rabit that accidently run into the bag which the fellow was holding open, who also run after the others crying "I got him! I got him!

At the request of Mr. William Gerges, of Salfordville we will add yet some of his researches concerning another branch of the family, located in the vicinity of Germantown.

Johannas Gorgas and Anthony Gorgas settled in Germantown between 1683 and 1700. Johannas was naturalized by an act of assembly pased in 1708-09. John Gorgas, of Germantown, purchased of Philip Christian Zimmerman thirty acres of land along the Germantown road, in Germantown, April 8, 1725. The following has been copied from gravestones in the vicinity of Germantown and Philadelphia:

John Gorgas died October 30, 1823, in his eighty-third year.

Margaret, wife of John Gorgas, died September 24, 1789, aged thirty-nine years and nine months.

Rachel, wife of John Gorgas, died March 8, 1825, aged eighty-five years.

John Gorgas died May 3, 1715, aged thirty-nine years.

Benjamin Gorgas died October 25, 1821, aged seventy-four years.

Julia Ann Gorgas died January 9, 1833, aged seventy-five years.

Joseph Gorgas died May 8, 1850, aged seventy-eight years.

Sarah, wife of Joseph Gorgas, died August 4, 1834, aged sixty-five years.

Mary Ann, wife of Joseph Gorgas, born November 17, 1763, died October 15, 1867, aged 103 years, ten months and eighteen days.

Sarah Gorgas died May 13, 1862, aged ninety years.

Lydia Gorgas, born November 30, 1797, died December 30, 1872, aged seventy-five years and thirty days.

Peter K. Gorges, born January 6, 1795, died June 15, 1856, aged sixty-one years, five months and six days.

Joseph Gorgas, son of Peter Gorges, died April 5, 1858, aged nineteen years, eleven months and twenty-five days.

William Gorgas, son of Peter Gorgas, died June 5, 1842.

Mary Gorgas died May 27, 1842.

George Gorgas, born November 29, 1798, died December 11, 1849, aged fifty-one years and twelve days.

Rebecca, daughter of George Gorgas, died December 10, 1858.

Joseph C. Gorgas died September 18, 1855, aged thirty-eight years.

George Gorgas died December 10, 1842, aged seventy-five years.

Rachel, wife of George Gorgas, born November 27, 1774, died July 3, 1859, aged eighty-four years, seven months and six days.

Henry Gorgas died February 7, 1857, aged thirty-eight years.

Sarah Gorgas died February 13, 1858, aged eighty-seven years.

JOHN VALENTINE KRATZ.

When it was requested of me, a few years ago, to separate the names of the freeholders or taxables of Salford in the list of 1734, into two separate lists, including those of Lower Salford in one list, and those of Upper Salford and Marlborough in another, for insertion into the his-

tory of each of the said townships in the History of Montgomery County, I did not know in which of the two townships Valentine Kratz was assessed after the division of the township had been made in 1741. But as his land was nearly all in Upper Salford it was reasonable to suppose that he was also assessed there and therefore his name was placed in the list of that township. But soon afterward I found that, after the division of the township, he was assessed in Lower Salford. John Valentine Kratz was born in 1707. He came to Pennsylvania in 1727, when he was twenty years old, and arrived in the ship, Friendship, on the 16th of October, of said year. The vessel set sail already on the 20th of June, making a voyage of nearly four months. He was the youngest son of John Philip Kratz, who was born October 8, 1665, and died in 1746. It is said one of his sisters came along with him to this country. He had two brothers and four sisters as the family record shows. It is said by his descendants that his wife was a Clemens, Her given name was Ann, and I presume she was a daughter of Gerhart Clemens, because they had a son whose name was Gerhart Kratz, as will be shown before the close of this sketch. He purchased two tracts of land one from Gerhart Clemens and one from the commissioners of property, as will be seen. In pursuance and by virtue of a warrant granted under the lesser seal bearing date August 3, 1734, there was surveyed to Valentine Kratz on the 12th day of March following, a certain tract of land "beginning at a post in a line of Garret Clemens' land; thence by vacant land northwest 126 perches to a white oak; thence by vacant land northeast 220 perches to a post; thence by vacant land southeast 126 perches to a post in a line of Derick Johnson's land; thence by the same and said Garret Clemens'

land southwest 220 perches to the place of beginning, containing 163 acres and seventy-one perches with allowance of six per cent. for roads and highways." All this land for which he paid £ 25, 6s, 8d, and received a patent therefor on February 14, 1736, is located in Upper Salford. The township line afterwards separated his two tracts. The other tract which he purchased from Gerhart Clemens and wife January 30, 1736, was represented as fifty-three acres, and for this land he paid £53. This tract was 122 perches long and sixty-nine perches and a halt wide. The first house was built where Milton H. Alderfer now lives, and is on that tract which he purchased from Mr. Clemens.

In the tax list of Salford of 1734 we find Valentine Kratz rated on 100 acres of land. It must have been for the same land for which a warrant was granted August 3rd of that year, as already stated. This large tract, all in Upper Salford, extended up on both sides of the Skippack road to the cross road below Salfordville. Apparently a small tract in the north corner, now owned by Daniel Bergey, was cut out of this tract for Valentine Hunsicker in the latter part of the last century. The latter had ten children, but only one of them, Abraham, the father of John Hunsicker, of Lower Salford, is yet living. Valentine Kratz, purchased another long narrow strip of land extending southwest along the township line outside of the main farm, along William Gergas' land southwest 294 perches to a stone, a corner of said Gergas land ; then southeast by the same eighteen perches to a white oak a corner of Christian Holdeman's land, thence by the same southwest yet twenty-two perches to a stone, a corner of Jacob Cassel's land ; then by the same northwest forty-nine perches to a corner of Henry Waldt's land ; then by several courses north-

east 316 perches, containing sixty-eight acres and 142 perches. There were three tracts of land in this vicinity, containing together 316 acres that legally had no owner until June 20, 1772, when a patent was granted for those three tracts to Henry, Jacob, Conrad, Andrew and George Worman, when some time afterward conveyances were granted to those who laid claim to it. In the tax list of 1776 we find that Valentine Kratz was assessed for 150 acres in Upper Salford and 150 acres in Lower Salford, which shows that he owned 300 acres of land. He died in 1780, aged about seventy-three years, but his wife, Ann, survived him till 1793. They belonged to the Mennonite congregation in Salford, and were charter members if they may be so called. After the death of John Valentine Kratz the old homestead and 150 acres of land was held by his youngest son, Isaac, who was born in 1748. The residence on the farm in Upper Salford, when it was divided into two tracts was built by Valentine Kratz for his son, Valentine, where the residence of Henry Weber now is. His son, Valentine, was born May 16, 1747, and owned 150 acres of land.

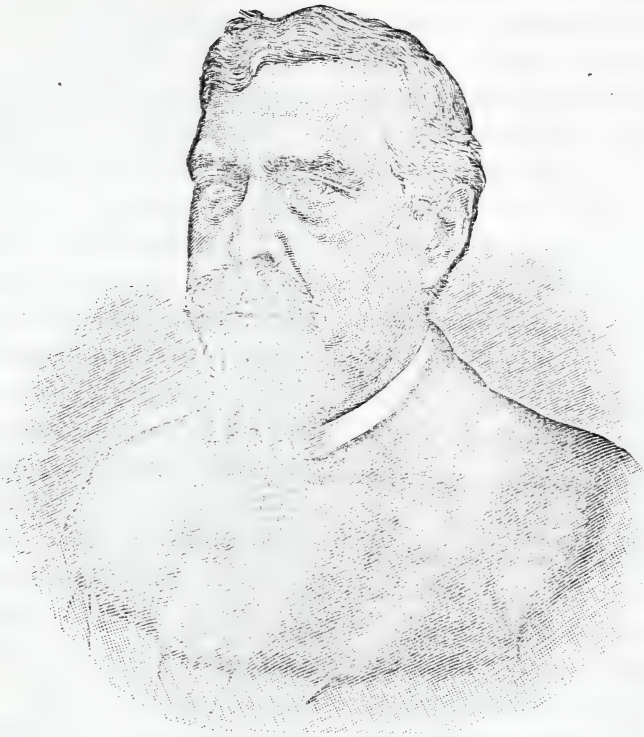
This Valentine Kratz of the second generation was not a very young man when he was married, or else had no children for some years, for his oldest child, Ann, was born November 17, 1778, when he was twenty-nine years of age. He was twice married; his first wife was Mary Rosenberger, by whom he had nine children, whose names were as follows: Ann, Daniel, Valentine, Abraham, John, Isaac, David, William and Jacob. The latter became the owner of his father's farm in Upper Salford, where Henry Weber now lives, and owned it many years, as many of us will recollect. Valentine Kratz lived on that farm and died there July 28, 1834, aged

eighty-seven years, two months and twenty-seven days. His first wife, Mary, died January 23, 1805, aged forty-seven years. His second wife, Margaret, who was a widow King when he married her, died April 4, 1835 aged seventy-five years, two months and five days. His oldest child and only daughter, Ann, was born, as already stated, November 17, 1778, and was never married; she died October 24, 1822, aged forty-four years, eleven months and seven days. Daniel, the oldest son, married a woman by name of Geist and removed to Potts-town. Very little is known of him. He died leaving no issue. Valentine, of the third generation, was born February 5, 1783, and was twice married. He lived in Frederick township. His first wife was a widow Boyer, who had five children when he married her, and they together had yet six, namely: Valentine, Jonas, George, Mary, Ann and one whose name I did not hear. His second wife was a widow Detwiler, who also had five children when he married her, and they together had yet six, namely: Jacob, Daniel, Rebecca, Esther, Sarah and Hannah. It will thus be seen that he and his two wives together had twenty-two children. He was lame and was known as "Lame Felty." He died October 29, 1865, aged eighty-two years, eight months and twenty-four days. His second wife, Mary, died March 6, 1866, aged seventy-seven years, ten months and two days. His son, Valentine, of the fourth generation, removed to the State of New York and died there. George also died in the State of New York. Jonas died and is buried at the Mennonite burying ground in Upper Providence. Of the second family was Daniel, who a few years ago fell through a trap-door at the residence of Abraham F. Yeatts, in Lower Salford, and was killed by the fall, as will be remembered.

Abraham Kratz, son of Valentine, the second, was born August 25, 1785; he married Elizabeth Cassel, of Upper Salford, and had five children, whose names were John, Mary, Abraham, Daniel and Catharine. They lived in Skippack township, on the farm now belonging to their son, Daniel. Abraham Kratz, died February 11, 1870, aged eighty-four years, five months and seven days. His wife, Elizabeth, preceded him to the grave; she died November 9, 1861, aged seventy-five years, eight months and fourteen days. They are buried at the Mennonite meeting house in Lower Salford.

John Kratz, the fifth child of Valentine, the second, was born April 27, 1788; he married Catharine Detweiler and had two children, Jacob and Henry. He lived in Skippack township, and died October 21, 1820, aged thirty-two years, five months and twenty-four days. His widow, Catharine afterward married Jacob Bien, with whom she had yet three or more children. She died March 18, 1864, aged seventy-one years, two months and eleven days.

Isaac Kratz, the sixth child of Valentine, the second, was born November 13, 1790, and married Catharine, a daughter of his next neighbor, Valentine Hunsicker. They raised a family of eight children, whose names were Valentine, William, Ann, Margaret, Elizabeth, Catharine, Mary and Isaac, and, for some time, lived in Upper Providence, and finally died there. They did not keep a stationery home, but bought and sold occasionally. He was the grandfather of H. W. Kratz, Esq., of Trappe. He died July 13, 1868, aged seventy-seven years and eight months. His wife, Catharine, died August 24, 1864, aged seventy-seven years, six months and eleven days. The next day after his death, July 14, 1868, his son, Isaac, died, aged forty-two years and thir-



Henry W. Kratz

teen days. They were both buried on the same day, and the son lays by side of his parents at the lower Mennonite meeting house in Skippack.

David Kratz, the seventh child of Valentine, the second, was born March 14, 1792, and married Ann, daughter of Henry Lederach, of Worcester. They lived in Worcester, where their son, the late William Kratz, deceased, lived, and raised a family of sons and daughters. David Kratz died January 27, 1872, aged seventy-nine years, nine months and twenty-four days. His wife, Ann, preceded him to the grave about four years. She died September 6, 1868, aged sixty-nine years and twenty-four days. They are buried at the lower Skippack meeting house.

William Kratz, the eighth child of Valentine, the second, was born in 1793, and in 1820 he married Mary, daughter of Henry Rosenberger, of Hilltown township, Bucks county. They lived in Upper Salford, where Samuel Ziegler lives, on part of his father's farm, but afterward removed to Hilltown, and had six children whose names were Jesse, Samuel, Henry, David, Sarah and Hannah. The last named died young. William Kratz, the father of these children, died in 1834 in the forty-first year of his age. His wife, Mary, died in 1866, aged about sixty-six years. They are buried at the Mennonite meeting house, near Blooming Glen. Of their descendants no less than seven have been school teachers, and two of them graduates. Some of them live in the Western States.

Jacob Kratz, the ninth and youngest child of Valentine, the second, was born June 24, 1798, and married Mary, daughter of John Stauffer, of East Upper Salford. He became the owner of his father's farm on the Skippack road, in Upper Salford, where Henry Weber lives, which he owned many years. They raised a family of six children,

three sons and three daughters, whose names were John, Eli and David, Rachel, Mary and Hannah. He died August 25, 1881, aged eighty-three years, two months and one day. His wife, Mary, died February 13, 1887, aged eighty-three years, one month and some days. They are buried at the Mennonite meeting house in Lower Salford. These with their numerous descendants constitute the family of Valentine Kratz, the second, who was born in 1747. The following are the descendants of his younger brother, Isaac:

Isaac Kratz, of the second generation, was born July 15, 1747. He married Mary Yellis and became the owner of the old homestead; they had nine children, whose names were Valentine, Fronica, Ann, John, Mary, Abraham, Philip, Isaac and Elizabeth.

This Isaac Kratz, youngest son of John Valentine Kratz, built the first house on the farm now owned by Jacob K. Freed, which is occupied by his son-in-law, John K. Clemmer. The farm now owned by Samuel Ziegler is also part of the Kratz plantation. He made his last will and testament in writing dated December 16, 1817, and theirin appointed his son, John, and his son-in-law, Henry Clemens, his executors. He died September 15, 1823, aged seventy-four years and two months. His will was probated October 23, 1823, and the farm at that time containing yet 108 acres of land was released by the heirs to their brother, Isaac, March 27, 1824, for $2066.67. His widow, Mary Kratz, born March 14, 1758, died January 3, 1832, aged seventy-three years, nine months and nineteen days.

Valentine, the oldest son, born November 29, 1776, married Mary Moyer, of Lower Salford, and had a family of seven children, whose names were Jacob, Isaac, Joseph, Elizabeth, Samuel, Henry and John. Their

son, Jacob, born February 20, 1803, died May 23, 1823, aged twenty years, three months and three days. His first wife, Mary, born April 17, 1785, died August 22, 1820, aged thirty-seven years, four months and nine days. He afterward married Elizabeth Young. He was known as "Deaf Felty" because he did not hear well. He first lived in Frederick township, but afterward removed to Towamencin before the bridge near Groff's mill was built over the Branch creek and when their moving went through the stream there below the mill the water was so high that it nearly took them along down the stream. It is yet remembered by old people that it was a narrow escape. Valentine Kratz died August 6, 1852, aged seventy-five years, eight months and seven days. His second wife, Elizabeth, born December 23, 1796, died June 10, 1857, aged sixty years, five months and fifteen days. There is something wrong in these dates or age. They are buried in Delp's graveyard in Franconia. Some of their descendants reside in Illinois.

Fronica, the oldest daughter of Isaac Kratz, born October 27, 1778, married Isaac Fretz, of Bucks county; they lived in Bedminster township, near the Tohickon creek, and had eight children, whose names were John, Jacob, Isaac, William, Mahlon, Samuel, Mary and Elizabeth. She died January 13, 1821, aged forty-two years, two months and sixteen days. They are buried at the Mennonite meeting house at Deep Run.

Ann, the second daughter and third child in the family of Isaac Kratz, married Henry Clemens, of Lower Salford, who lived where Rev. Isaac Clemens, their son, still lives; she was born July 16, 1780, and died February 23, 1861, aged eighty years, seven months and seven days. Henry Clemens died November 9, 1860, aged seventy-

seven years, seven months and twenty-eight days. They had seven children, whose names were Mary, Garret, Catharine, Isaac, Elizabeth, Sarah and Jacob,

John, the fourth child of Isaac Kratz, born June 27, 1782, married Catharine Johnson, of Skippack. They first lived on that part of his father's farm in Upper Salford, which is now owned by Jacob K. Freed, but after some time removed down to the Skippack, near Markley's mill, where John K. Detweiler, his grandson, now lives. They had only two children, both daughters. He died December 23, 1872, aged ninety years, five months and twenty-six days. His wife, Catharine, preceded him to the grave nearly thirty years; she was born April 12, 1788, and died May 23, 1842, aged forty-five years, ten months and nineteen days.

Mary or Mollie, the fifth child of Isaac Kratz, born September 13, 1784, became deranged at the age of fourteen years, and remained so until the time of her death, January 5, 1824. Her age was thirty-nine years, three months and twenty-three days. Abraham, the sixth child of Isaac Kratz, born November 22, 1786, married Elizabeth Fretz, and lived on the farm which was first intended for his brother, John, and is now occupied by John K. Clemmer, son-in-law of J. K. Freed. They lived on that farm in Upper Salford, and raised four children, namely, Mary, Martin, Abraham F. and Elizabeth. Martin died in 1846, and Elizabeth, wife of J. K. Freed, in 1877. Abraham Kratz died June 3, 1868, aged eighty-one years, six months and eleven days. His wife, Elizabeth, born May 20, 1792, died September 17, 1872, aged eighty years, three months and twenty-seven days.

Philip, the seventh child of Isaac Kratz, born November 19, 1789, married Mary, daughter of

Valentine Heunsicker's
Children were Hugh,
Michael, Isaac, George,
Abraham,
Elizabeth m. — Mack
Barbara m. Henry Bornemann
Lena m. George Rahn
Mary m. Philip Kratz
Catherine m. Isaac Kratz
Margaret m. Hubert Cassel.

Valentine Hunsicker, of Upper Salford. He lived on the farm now belonging to William Delp, on the Skippack road, where he owned fifty-one acres, made up of five small tracts, in both Upper and Lower Salford, but in 1833 he sold his farm and several disconnected lots to his brother, Isaac, when he and his family removed to Bedminster township, Bucks county, near the Deep Run, where they then lived and died, and are buried there. They had nine children, whose names were Isaac, John, Abraham, Margaret, Eliza, Mary, Anna and Catharine.

Philip Kratz died September 5, 1875, aged eighty-five years, nine months and sixteen days. His wife, Mary, born March 9, 1794, died April 22, 1865, aged seventy-one years, one month and thirteen days.

Isaac, the eighth child of Isaac Kratz, born November 19, 1791, married Ann, daughter of his next neighbor, Benjamin Alderfer, and had seven children, whose names were Benjamin, John, Mary, Michael, Isaac, Elizabeth and Ann. Benjamin and Isaac are dead. He, as already stated, became the owner of his father's farm, in Lower Salford, and lived and died there. It is now owned and occupied by Milton H. Alderfer. Isaac Kratz died January 23, 1873, aged eighty-one years, two months and four days. But his wife, Ann, survived him yet over eleven years; she died September 12, 1884, aged eighty-nine years, less nine days.

Elizabeth, the ninth and youngest child of Isaac Kratz, born March 9, 1800, married Henry Ziegler, of Lower Salford, and raised a family of only three children, whose names were Isaac, Michael, and Abraham. Many years they lived on the farm now belonging to Augustus Espenship, but in later years they lived in Lederachville, where he died at an advanced age some years

ago. She is still living in her eighty-eighth year, is quite smart yet, considering her age, and has a remarkable memory. She is the mother of A. K. Ziegler, of Harleysville, with whom she resides.

The foregoing statistics comprise only the families of the two youngest children of John Valentine Kratz, of Lower Salford, but is not complete. It is only brought down so far that younger people can take hold of it if they wish to hunt up their genealogy.

We will now go back to the head of the family, and submit to our readers the following family record, copied from an old bible belonging to the Kratz family, where it was written in German:

John Philip Kratz was born October 8, 1665, and died in 1746, aged eighty-one years. His wife died in 1710.

Their daughter, Anna Eliza Kratz, was born in 1695.

Their son, John, was born in 1697, and died in 1704.

John Philip Kratz was born in 1699.

Anna Maria was born in 1703,

Anna was born in 1705.

John Valentine Kratz was born in 1707.

Anna Elizabeth Kratz was born in 1709.

The foregoing record was brought from Germany, and those children were all born there, but the following is the family record of John Valentine Kratz, and is of the second generation, all born in Pennsylvania:

John Kratz was born in 1732.

Michael Kratz was born in 1734.

Gerhart Kratz was born in 1736.

Philip Kratz was born in 1739.

Abraham Kratz was born in 1741.

Isaac Kratz born in 1742. (Died young.)

Anna Kratz was born in 1743.

A daughter was born in 1746. (Died young.)

Valentine Kratz was born in 1747.

Isaac Kratz was born in 1749.

Having had this sketch nearly finished so far, I went to see the widow Ziegler, who, as already stated, is in her eighty-eighth year, and whose remarkable memory retains the recollection of seeing her uncle, John Kratz, who, as will be seen by the family record, was born in 1732. She says he lived in Hilltown township, Bucks county, and is buried at the Mennonite meeting house, near Blooming Glen, which was formerly called, by the Germans, *Berkesee* meeting house. Her uncle, Philip Kratz, born in 1739, and her uncle, Abraham, born in 1741, both lived in Bedminster township, and are buried at the Deep Run Mennonite meeting house. Her aunt, Ann, born in 1743, married a man by name of Schweitzer, and they lived in Doylestown. She is certain that her two uncles, Michael and Gerhart, were both dead before she was born, and, to the best of her knowledge, left no issue.

By taking a glance at the ages it will be seen that a long life runs in the family. The Kratzs have generally been very tenacious in adhering to the Mennonite church, though there are exceptions, and in later years some of their descendants have held to other denominations. In politics they have invariably been Republican. They have generally been strong and healthy farmers, and until recently they have spoken the German language, while their education was limited. But within the last half century some of them have been educated; they speak the English language, and are smart, intelligent and useful men.

JACOB PRICE.

Among the twenty or more families of Dunkards, who came to Pennsylvania, under the leadership of Peter Becker, in 1719, was Jacob Price, a minister in said church. He and the others at first settled down in Germantown, but after becoming acquainted with the country, and imbibing of that spirit of progress, and of acquiring possession, which was among the people, they, one after another, went out into the country and purchased lands in different localities, cleared away the forest, and built their log-cabins. Jacob Price became acquainted with Dirk Johnson, of Germantown, who about the time of the arrival of the former, had obtained a warrant for 500 acres of land, on or near the Indian creek. This warrant was granted August 15, 1719, and on February 19, 1720, 500 acres were surveyed for him. Then on the following 20th of June, 1720, Jacob Price purchased 200 acres from Dirk Johnson and wife, Margaret. Twenty-two years later this land was bounded as follows, and the courses and distances were thus given: Beginning at a white-oak, marked for a corner, standing near the Branch of the Perkiomen creek; then north-east by John Umstead's land 159 perches to a stake; then south-east by said Dirk Johnson's other land 216 perches to a stake; then south-west by Dirk Johnson's other land 157 perches to a stake; then by vacant land north-west 216 perches to the place of beginning, the usual allowance of six per cent. being included.

Jacob Price had an only son, whose name was John, though he did not live to middle age. He left two sons, named Daniel and John. How it came that in the "History of Montgomery County" the name of Jacob Price in the tax list of 1734, appears also in the list of Upper Salford, I cannot say! I did not

put it there. It is a mistake. Jacob Price made considerable improvements on his farm, but he never became a naturalized citizen. Being well advanced in years and bodily infirm, his son, John, being dead, he conveyed his plantation, containing two hundred acres, to his oldest grandson, Daniel, with all the power vested in himself, being an alien and no citizen, February 7, 1741, on condition that he would pay to his brother, John, £600 in lawful money of Pennsylvania, or give him his equal half of the 200 acres. To secure the payment thereof, Daniel gave his bond for the said amount, and in case Jacob, their grandfather, should die before John was of lawful age the money was to be given to Jacob Reiff in trust for the said John Price. The £600 were paid to his brother, John, April 3, 1753, when the latter signed a release, acknowledging the receipt of the said sum and renouncing all claim to the land. At the request of Daniel Price to have the plantation legally conveyed to him, a patent was obtained from the Honorable John Penn, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, dated December 10, 1742, on the receipt of five shillings in money for the conveyance, and the annual quit-rent of one silver shilling for every 100 acres.

Daniel Price was born December 11, 1723, and was therefore, as will be seen, only seventeen years old when his grandfather conveyed the farm to him, and nineteen when he obtained a patent from the provincial government. This proves that the government, at least in certain cases, granted conveyances to minors. After Daniel owned the farm he cleared away the forest and brought the land into service, the meadows into grass, and the fields under cultivation. He added tract after tract to his land, from time to time, till he had 345 acres for which he

was assessed in 1776. On June 27, 1763, he purchased eight acres, adjacent to his farm on the north-west side, on the other side of the township line, Upper Salford. At what dates he purchased other adjoining tracts I cannot say.

Daniel Price had quite a large family, for there were thirteen children, but only five sons and two daughters raised families. John, the oldest son, received from his father and mother 130 acres of land in two adjoining tracts, December 9, 1783, the one tract contained 100 acres and the other thirty acres. This land was at the upper end, and the messuage now belongs to Mathias M. Price. We will have more to say of this farm after awhile, and again turn our attention to the old homestead which was sold to William, a younger son. Daniel Price and wife, Hannah, granted to their son, William, 165 acres in three tracts, July 12, 1787, for £1400, one tract with the buildings contained 120 acres, another adjacent tract containing eight acres was on the other side of the township line, in Upper Salford, and the third tract, also adjacent, contained thirty-seven acres. Daniel Price was prominent in the affairs of the township; he was one of the auditors in 1761, 1767, 1774 and 1775. He was one of the supervisors of the township in 1783 and in 1784. He died February 11, 1804, aged eighty years and two months. His wife, Hannah, born October 14, 1726, died July 6, 1796, aged sixty-nine years, eight months and twenty-two days.

William Price also took an active part in the affairs of the township, he was one of the auditors in 1784, 1786, 1787, 1788, in 1792, and then every year until 1804. As already stated, William Price received from his parents the old homestead and 165 acres of land, in 1787. Three years later, August 2, 1790, he purchased from

Catharine Greenleaf, widow, and Samuel Morris and his wife, Rebecca, 131 acres and twenty-six perches. This land is now included in the farms of Levi Stauffer, A. A. Delp, Henry M. Clemmer and others. Part of it is in and on both sides of the Branch creek. On the same day in 1790, the same party conveyed to Jacob Alderfer twenty-five acres of land, and two years later, May 28, 1792, the latter and his wife, Elizabeth, granted the same tract to William Price. These several tracts combined gave to William Price 322 acres, but he afterwards sold in several lots, in all, thirty-nine acres, which left remaining in his hand 283 acres. The land which he sold lay on the north-west side of the Mennonite meeting house, adjacent to the same It was this William Price who built the first saw-mill on this property; he purchased a water right, dug the race and built a dam in his brother John's meadow, in 1790, and received a conveyance, title or right from him, dated August 24th of that year. We will have more to say of this matter at some time hereafter. William Price, born May 1, 1760, was married to Catharine, daughter of Jacob and Catharine Reiff, of Lower Salford. He died intestate, November 4, 1805, aged forty-five years, six months and two days, leaving a widow and eight children, whose names were as follows: Jacob, William, Hannah, Catharine, Elizabeth, Sarah, Nancy and Rachel. The last named died in her ninth year, in 1812. Sometime afterwards the widow, Catharine, married Joseph Harley, but they had no issue. What kind of proceedings were taken after the death of William Price in regard to the settlement of his estate does not appear, but we find that at an orphan's court, held in Norristown, November 18, 1811, the whole tract containing 283 acres of land with

buildings and improvements valued at $14,716, was confirmed to the oldest son, Jacob, who was still under lawful age. About that time he married Mary, daughter of Abraham and Christiana Harley, and sold out his large tract of land in pieces and parcels to suit purchasers, but kept for his own use 140 acres with buildings and improvements, and a sawmill. To Abraham Ruth he sold fifty-seven acres and 133 perches, for which he and his wife, Mary, gave a conveyance, dated April 3, 1812. That property now belongs to Levi Stauffer.

To Conrad Keely he sold 71 acres and 131 perches and gave a deed bearing the same date. This property now belongs to A. A. Delp. To Peter Wile he sold about nine acres at the same time, but the conveyance is lost. It was part of the premises now belonging to Henry Clemmer. He also sold four acres and 128 perches of land on the west side of the Branch creek, to Valentine Kratz. But to whom he sold the remainder of about fifty acres I can not say, if it was not to John Shutt. The conveyances of the Shott farm have been lost or destroyed and no one now living knows from whom he bought that farm, but we can say that apparently it was conveyed by Daniel Price to one of his other sons, who then sold it to John Shott about the close of the last century or the beginning of the present. John Shott was a native of Horsham township, but he came up to Franconia and married Catharine, daughter of Jacob and Esther Overholtzer. Jacob Overholtzer was a minister in the Mennonite church, and his wife, Esther, was a daughter of Andrew Lederach, as has been related in a previous sketch. John Shott lived on that farm many years and died there, January 26, 1832, in the sixty-sixth year of his age. His son, Jacob,

then owned the farm until the time of his death, March 52, 1872. It was afterward sold by his administrators, at public sale, to his son-in-law, Philip Shelly. It was during the time that he owned the property, on April 30, 1875, that the house and barn on this farm burnt away, and the the fire was conveyed by the strong gale over to Henry Overholtzer's, where both house and barn were also consumed. The Shott farm now belongs to Allen Freed. It is probable that the conveyances were destroyed by the fire at that time. The house on Simon Clemmer's farm was built by Amos Price, about the year 1838, and the old one on John Schlotter's lot which was recently rebuilt, was built by his sister, Elizabeth Weirman, widow of John Weirman, about the year 1840. She was a daughter of Daniel Price, who was a brother to the aforementioned William. The land on which Amos Price built his house had formerly belonged to Samuel Harley, as related in the "History of Harleysville." It was originally a part of Dirk Johnson's land, but was a remnant of twenty-four acres and 136 perchers, which was sold by his heirs, or the heirs of his daughter, Catharine Wister, who were Samuel Morris, Esq., Richard Wister and his wife, Benjamin W. Morris and wife, Anthony W. Morris and wife, Luke W. Morris, Isaac W. Morris and wife, Catharine W. Morris, and Israel W. Morris. About sixteen acres they sold to Andrew Campbell, who sold the same to Samuel Harley, and the remainder which was about eight acres they sold to Samuel Harley, May 27, 1799. Part of the lot now belonging to John Schlotter also belonged to Samuel Harley.

The first house on Henry M. Clemmer's farm was undoubtedly built by Peter Wile, in 1812. He was a blacksmith by trade and lived there about fifteen years; they raised a family of twelve children, whose names

were John, Peter, Samuel, Benjamin, Joseph, Jacob, Daniel, Jonas, Catharine, wife of George Frederick, Rachel, wife of Jonas Markley, Mary, wife of Enos Dorn, and Elizabeth, wife of Jacob Kline. Though these names may not be in exact rotation. They are now all dead excepting Jonas, Mary, and Elizabeth. This lot or small farm was purchased by John Shott, Sr., about the year 1827, and was owned by him until the time of his death; but then the farm containing about 100 acres was divided between his two sons, Jacob and John; the latter owned this farm about thirty-five years, and then sold it to Henry Landis, in 1867. After several years the latter and his wife sold the same to Jacob M. Price, who built a new house there and otherwise repaired and improved the place, and then sold the same containing forty-four acres to Henry M. Clemmer, the present owner.

The farm now belonging to A. A. Delp was purchased by Conrad Keeley from Jacob Price, April 3, 1812. He owned this farm twenty-four years, or until the time of his death, in 1836. In his will he appointed his daughter, the late Margaret Keeley, and his son-in-law, Abraham Alderfer, his executors, and John Alderfer, guardian of minor children. Then Margaret Keeley, executrix, and John Alderfer, guardian, sold and conveyed this farm to Abraham Alderfer, one of the executors, February 11, 1837. The latter at the same time purchased yet seven acres and thirty-seven perches from John Shott. Some time afterward Abraham Alderfer transferred this property to his son-in-law, Abraham Delp, father of A. A. Delp, the present owner, who has since added thereto yet several acres.

The farm containing fifty-five acres, now belonging to Levi Stauffer, was purchased by Abraham Ruth from Jacob

Price, April 3, 1812, and was owned and occupied by him twenty-one years, and then sold back again to Jacob Price, April 5, 1833. He and his wife afterward sold about forty-six acres of the same land, with buildings and improvements, to their son, Jonas Price. He then owned this property until 1849 or 1850, when he and his wife sold it to John K. Alderfer, who owned it one or two years and then sold the same property to his brother-in-law, Peter Hunsberger, in 1851, who then owned it five years. But on March 31, 1856, he and his wife, Margaret, conveyed the same property to Joseph C. Fretz. One year later, April 18, 1857, Mr. Fretz and his wife, Olivia, sold seventy-five perches of land to Aaron M. Musselman, for $37.50. It is a shame that we have such ignorant conveyancers in our time who do not know better how to write Olivia than thus, *Allefia*. Mr. Fretz and wife sold their farm some years later to a German, whose name was Richard Metzger, who was accidently killed by a portion of wall falling upon him, at the residence of Jacob K. Alderfer, in 1865.

On March 22, 1866, the heirs of said deceased, Jacob Metzger and his wife, Elizabeth, George Metzgar and his sister, Rosanna Hoover, by their release granted this property to Christian Hoover. The latter after owning it six years, in 1872, granted he same premises to Levi Stauffer, the present owner.

In 1812, when Jacob Price sold out the large tract of land of which his father, William Price, died intestate, and which by an exemplification of the records of the orphans' court of Montgomery county, held in Norristown, November 18, 1811, was confirmed unto him—he reserved the messuage and saw-mill and 140 acres of land for his own use, and occupied it about twenty-five years. In 1833 he purchased the farm

containing fifty-seven acres, from Abraham Ruth, which he had sold to him in 1812, twenty-one years previous. He then sold about forty-six acres of the same with buildings and improvements thereon to his son, Jonas, and soon afterward removed his saw-mill about 200 yards farther down, and built a chopping mill to it, where the mill now stands. He then built that house and barn at the hill, near the mill, now belonging to John K. Shott, and lived there until 1851, when on the 5th of April, of that year, he and his wife, Mary, conveyed the messuage, saw-mill and chopping mill, and forty-seven acres and eighty-four perches of land to John K. Alderfer, of Lower Salford, for $4250, including a water right, subject to the annual payment of $2.-67, on the 27th day of May, to the owner of the farm containing the dam, which now belongs to Mathias M. Price. William Price paid five shillings, or sixty-six cents, to his brother, John, for the right of laying a dam and cutting out a short race in his meadow, in 1790, and was to pay twenty shillings annually for the use thereof; but in case the mill would be discontinued and the water would be use only to irrigate the meadow, the annual payment was to be only ten shillings. The first dam was farther up in the stream than the one which is now there, and a water-mark was made when it was built. But in 1865 it was removed farther down in the stream, on the line between the two farms. Jacob H. Landis, who then owned the mill, paid Jesse Y. Heckler, who then owned the farm, $150 for the right of moving the dam down to the line of his land and still retaining the old water-mark above, and Abraham H. Price fifty dollars for the right of moving the dam on his line of land, where it now is. Besides these rights, when Jacob Price sold the farm to his son, Abra-

ham, he reserved the right for the race through his land from the dam to his mill, and the right to clean and repair, and keep in order the same forever. All these rights and privileges he granted to John K. Alderfer when he conveyed the mills to him. After owning this property nearly three years, Mr. Alderfer and his wife, Sarah, sold the same to John G. Swartley, and granted a conveyance with all the rights and privileges granted to him, bearing date January 21, 1854. The latter after owning this property three years sold the mills with all their rights and privilege, and two acres and sixty-six perches of land, to Aaron M. Musselman, of Lower Salford, for $2760, and gave a conveyance, therefor, signed by himself and wife, Sarah, April 3, 1857. On the same day John G. Swartley and his wife conveyed the messuage and thirty-five acres and eighteen perches of land to John F. Derstein, for $3200. But two years later Jacob H. Landis, who was a miller by occupation, took hold of the mills and of the farm. He purchased the mills and two acres and 141 perches of land from Aaron M. Musselman and his wife, Sarah, for $3000, and received all the rights and privileges belonging thereto in a conveyance, dated April 7, 1859. The farm still containing thirty-five acres and eighteen perches of land with buildings and improvements had been conveyed to him already on the 17th of March, by John F. Derstine and his wife, Sarah, for $3500. Mr. Landis then sold off the greater part of his land to adjacent owners, and also purchased a small adjacent tract near his mills from Christian Hoover and wife, Rosanna, March 22, 1866, in order to give him more space around his mills, when he had removed the saw-mill to the place where it now is, and built a grist-mill there as it now is. He also

built the dam in the stream from which the water is taken to the saw-mill, and purchased a water right from Abraham H. Price, in 1860, paying seventy-five dollars for the right of swelling or raising the water up to his land on a certain mark in a rock. He also purchased a right from Christian Hoover to clean out and repair the tail-race. All these water rights have been committed to writing and are recorded in the office in Norristown. Mr. Landis made quite a change here in the time he owned this property, which was over thirteen years. But as the water of this small stream was not sufficient at all times to run his mill he purchased the mill on the Perkiomen, at Yerkes station, and sold his mills on the Indian creek to John K. Shott, for $7800, June 8, 1872, with all the rights and privileges belonging thereto, and the annual payment of $2.-67 to the owner of the farm containing the dam. Mr. Shott has since added an engine and steam works to his mill, to facillitate his business. His farm contains only yet about thirteen acres. The small farm containing sixteen-acres belonging to Moses Godshalk was formerly part of the Price farm. It was separated therefrom, and the buildings were put there by Abraham H. Price, about the year 1863.

The old homestead now containing 120 acres has belonged to the Price family already 167 years, and has been owned by Jacob, Daniel, William, Jacob, Abraham H. and Abraham M., the present owner On this farm is already the eighth generation, and on the farm above, belonging to Mathias M. Price, is already the ninth generation. On this farm is the old family burying ground, where many of the Prices are buried, besides some other people. The old house, built of stone, stood on the other side of the road in front of the barn. Here in the

meadow, as well as on Stauffer's farm below, may be seen a wind engine which pumps the water up into the barn for the cattle and for other use. This is an old historic farm. Here along the stream and through the forest the Indians roamed at a late period, and had their wigwams in the woods over toward Henry A. Price's.

On December 9, 1783, as already stated, Daniel Price and wife, Hannah, transferred to their son, John, two adjacent tracts of land, containing 130 acres, which undobtedly contained buildings and improvements at that time, where Mathias M. Price now lives. One tract contained 100 acres and the other tract thirty acres. Then, on August 2, 1790, we find Samuel Morris and his wife, Rebecca, and Catharine Greenleaf, widow, conveying to him thirty-three acres and twenty-six perches more. But this was not all the land which John Price owned, for, in all, he must have owned about 200 acres. At least the greater part thereof is now contained in the farms of M. M. Price, Rev. Henry A. Price, Jonas Delp, and in those lots along the pike there.

He was the same John Price who granted a water right to his brother, William, with the privilege of building a dam in his meadow and cutting out a race to conduct the water to his saw-mill, in 1790. This same John Price also purchased a right from Abraham Harley, August 3, 1818, to build a dam in his meadow and to cut out a ditch to convey the water down into his meadow. It is that same ditch which extends along the fence near the meeting house and conveys the water down to irrigate M. M. Price's meadow.

John Price was a minister and bishop in the Dunkard or Brethren church. He was quite a fluent speaker and an influential man; he was twice married, his first wife was Elizabeth Weidner, but she died April 10,

1793, aged forty-three years and five months. He afterward married Barbara Andrew, and lived on that farm yet a number of years.

He and his second wife, Barbara, transferred to their son, William, the messuage and farm containing about eighty-eight acres in two tracts, for £2700, April 12, 1819. They also transferred to their son, Daniel, the farm still owned by his son, Rev. Henry A. Price, containing at first apparently about seventy acres. After disposing of the greater part of his lands he lived where Jonas Delp now lives, and finally died there, September 7, 1829, aged seventy-seven years, nine months and two days.

His second wife, Barbara, survived him about eight years and continued to reside where Jonas Delp lives, until the time of her death, which occurred October 22, 1837, at the advanced age of eighty-six years, one month and twenty-two days. John Price, made his will dated June 1, 1822, and therein appointed his two sons, William and Daniel his executors. After the death of the said widow, the said executors made public sale for the remaining property, and sold the farm containing twenty-four acres and fifty-three perches with buildings and improvements, though needing repairs, to Jonas C. Godshalk, for $2,-208.06, and gave a conveyance, dated March 28, 1838. The latter owned this farm seventeen years, and in the meanwhile built a second story on the one story log-house and otherwise made improvements and repairs, and added two acres of land, but then sold and confirmed the same property to Jonas Delp, the present owner, April 1, 1855. The latter has since added several small tracts of land thereto making in all about fifty acres, and improved the buildings and surroundings.

Concerning the farm belonging to M. M. Price, it has been

stated that John Price and wife transferred it to their son, William, April 12, 1819, and he then owned it until the time of his death, which occurred August 7, 1849, when he was nearly sixty years of age. Letters of administration on his estate were granted to his son, Timothy, and his son-in-law, Samuel H. Cassel who sold the farm then containing eighty-six acres and 100 perches of land with buildings and improvements to Abraham H. Price, and gave a conveyance dated April 5, 1851. A new barn was built by Rev. William Price, and was not finished when he died. He was a minister and bishop in the Brethren or Dunkard church, though I will not dwell on this subject, but will leave it for Abraham H. Cassel whom I intend to introduce to my readers before long.

One month later, May 2, 1851, Abraham H. Price and his wife, Elizabeth, transferred this fine farm to his brother, Jacob, and he, after building a new house there and owning it fourteen years, with his wife, Salome, sold this valuable property, represented as eighty-eight acres and ninety-six perches, to Jesse Y. Heckler, of Harleysville, and gave a conveyance dated March 29, 1865. The latter soon found that running such a large farm was a different thing from running a store, and after owning it about nine months made public sale for the farm and farming implements, stock, etc., and sold the farm to Christopher Sell, of Saucon Valley. A conveyance was granted to the latter by Mr. Heckler and wife, Barbara, dated April 4, 1866. Mr. Sell and wife after owning this fine farm seven years sold it to Mathias M. Price, the present owner, and gave a conveyance dated April 14, 1873. On July 13, 1876, the barn was struck by lightning and burnt away. A portion of disconnected wood-

land has been sold off and the farm now contains only yet about seventy-five acres. This farm is beautifully located and is a valuable property.

MEMORANDA OF THE PRICE FAMILY.—The following is an abstract of an article written by Abraham H. Cassel at the requestof Attorney Samuel H. Price, of Lancaster:

FIRST GENERATION. Jacob, the great ancestor of the Prices in America, was a noted preacher among the German Baptists or Dunkard Brethren, in Europe, almost as soon as the fraternity had organized. He emigrated to America from the province of Witgenstein, in the north of Prussia, in 1719. He stayed awhile with the Brethren in Germantown, and then settled on a large tract of land on the Indian creek, in Lower Salford township, Montgomery county, Pa., June 20, 1720. He was small in stature and physiologically rather imperfectly developed, insomuch that he was not very commanding in appearance.

SECOND GENERATION. This Jacob had but one son, whose name was John; he was born in Germany, and was in his seventeenth year when he came to this country. He was so weakly that his father feared he would not live long enough to have any issue, and yet so desirous was he to leave a name and posterity behind him that he therefore encouraged his son to marry while he was yet very young, being only eighteen years of age he married a girl, said to have been half Indian, who was chosen for him by his father on account of her excellent physique and good health. Having entered into matrimonial alliances he was blessed with two sons, Daniel and John, but he died before the latter was born. Old Jacob, the grandfather, then took these two lads into his care to raise, but he also died before the younger son, John, was of lawful age.

Daniel received the old homestead and his posterity still resides thereon and in the vicinity, while John, his younger brother, removed westward to Franklin county, Pa., in early life; consequently we know but little about his posterity, excepting that they soon acquired independence and respect from all who knew them. Several of them also became very conspicuous as ministers and elders of the church there. Jacob Price, their grandfather, owned property in Germantown, which, it is said, he still retained after the purchase of his 200-acre tract. He had been a landholder in Germany, where he owned nine acres, and he doubtless thought 200 acres would be amply sufficient for his grandchildren, but when they became men they thought differently, for Daniel took the 200 acres to himself and John took the proceeds of the Germantown property and removed to what was then called the Connecocheague, now Franklin county, and purchased a large tract there.

THIRD GENERATION. The above mentioned *Daniel* had thirteen children in all, but there were only five sons and two daughters who had families and left descendants back. The names of the sons were John, George, Henry, William and Daniel. The daughters were Elizabeth and Hannah. The former married Jacob Weidner, the latter, John Clemens.

FOURTH GENERATION. *John* was born December 5, 1751, and was married to Elizabeth Weidner, in 1780. They had six children—four sons and two daughters; their names were John, Daniel, George and William. The daughters were Elizabeth, who was married to George Nice, and Susannah, who married Henry Moyer. John Price, the father of these children, was many years an ordained elder of the church at Indian Creek, and was the

father of the justly celebrated preacher and elder, William W. Price. He died at his residence, at Indian Creek, September 7, 1829, aged seventy-eight years, nine months and two days.

FOURTH GENERATION. *George*, of the same generation and brother to the aforementioned John, was born November 1, 1753, and was married to Sarah Harley; they settled in Coventry township, Chester County, opposite to the Locks, about two miles from Pottstown, and had three sons and three daughters. The names of the sons were Daniel, John and George; the daughters were Maria, Hannah and Sarah. This last named John was the father of the preacher and postmaster, Isaac Price, at Schuylkill, Chester county.

FOURTH GENERATION. *Henry*, of the same generation and brother to the above, was born March 10, 1757, and was married to Magdalene Lederach. They had seven children—five sons and two daughters; their names were Daniel, Jacob, William, Joseph and George; the daughters were Catharine and Maria. Catharine married John Reiff, the father of Henry P. Reiff, of Lower Salford. Maria married Isaac Schlichter.

FOURTH GENERATION. *William*, of the same generation and brother to the above, was born May 1, 1760, and was married to Catharine Reiff. They had seven children—two sons and five daughters, and their names were William and Jacob; the daughters were Anna, Catharine, Elizabeth, Hannah and Sarah.

FOURTH GENERATION. *Daniel*, of the same generation and brother to the above, was born on Sunday, January 14, 1767, and was the twelfth child of his parents. He married Margaret Kline and had eight children—five sons and three daughters. The names of the sons were Jacob, John, Daniel, George and Amos; the daugh-

Daniel Price who married Margaret Kline, mentioned on page 144, lived on the Allentown road in the eastern part of Lowa=
=mencin township where Lewis Alderfer now lives. see Davis, page 275.

William Price born Feb. 10, 1787, married Sarah Kallman. They lived in Lowamencin. He drank too much and died Sept. 1, 1827, aged 40 years, 6 months and 21 days. He was a brother in law to John Reiff. His son James Price built the present hotel in Harleysville. He also built the house on the old Moyer farm at present belonging to Joseph Dressel. James Price now lives in Kansas. His brother Jesse and brother Charles moved to Wisconsin. Their sister Mary Price married Henry Boorse and they also moved to Wisconsin where they became rich.
William Price's widow afterward married ~~married~~ George Snyder of Lowamencin. He was an undertaker and lived near the Lowamencin Mennon=
=ite meeting house. She is buried at the Brick Church near by.

ters were Hannah, who married Christian Wierman, Elizabeth, who married John Wierman, and Sarah, who married Henry Cassel—they moved to Ohio abont torty-four years ago (1843).

(Addressing the Attorney, he says:) Your great grandfather, as already shown, was *Daniel Price*; he was born in Lower Salford township, Montgomery county, on the 11th of December, 1723, and was married on the 22d of May, 1746, to Miss Hannah Weickerd, a Lutheran, in the twentieth year of her age, with whom he had thirteen children; your grandfather being the twelfth. The names of those who died young, or left no issue, were Jacob, Daniel, Maria, Philip, Catharine, and a nameless one that died at the age of ten days. Your grandfather Daniel Price's record I have already given, but will add yet a few particulars of the fifth generation.

FIFTH GENERATION. *Jacob*, your father, I have no particulars of; do not know whom he married.

FIFTH GENERATION. *John*, at Line Lexington, was many years a teacher and proprietor of a bording school. He was married to Sarah Swartley.

FIFTH GENERATION. *Daniel*, also many years a teacher of common and public schools, was married to Elizabeth Hunsperger, and had only two children, Mary and Caleb. The latter was also a teacher and Dunkard preacher many years, and is now living in Knox county, Ohio. He has been lame from his youth from the effects of what is generally known as "White Swelling."

FIFTH GENERATION. *George*, was a stone mason, and he also taught school during a few winters. He was married to Mary Garges and left a numerous family of sons and daughters.

FIFTH GENERATION. *Amos*, also a stone mason, was married

to Sarah Bergey; he also had several sons and daughters, and experienced more of the vicissitudes and troubles of life than perhaps any other Price ever did. I could hardly recount all the places where they lived. They were like a rolling stone, which, it is said, "gathers no moss" As they could not get along as well as they wished, and hearing such favorable reports of the West, especially of Ohio, which was just opening for settlers at that time, he was so anxious to see it that he *walked* all the way out, and *nearly all the way back*, about a 1000 miles, being too poor to afford any other conveyance. Soon afterward he sold his effects and moved out with his entire family on a one-horse team; they did not stay out very long till he moved back again with the same team. Then after buying and renting several times he moved to Ohio the second time, and there he moved about a good deal, locating in different counties, and finally died, I think, in Williams county, Ohio, about the year 1880, at the advanced age of eighty odd years. Your father had no sister "Mary" that I know of, but he had a sister Sarah, who married Henry Cassel; they moved to Ohio about forty years ago, and settled in Knox county, where some of his decendants still live; he was no relative to me, but I knew him well. * * * The Prices did come from Prussia, though not during the reign of Frederick the Great, but in the reign of his father, the eccentric Frederick William the First. The great ancestor of the Prices did come over with a colony of twenty families of Believers or German Baptists, but they came over under the leadership of Elder Peter Becker, in 1719, and established themselves first at Germantown, from whence they located in different parts of the country.

I might give personal histories of a number of Prices, but will

only relate of two, namely, of the celebrated preacher, William W. Price, the youngest son of Elder John Price, of the fourth generation. He was born August 29, 1789, on a part of the old homestead at Indian Creek, and early in life while working yet with his father on the farm manifested an eager desire for knowledge, so that he embraced every opportunity to cultivate his mind, occupying all his spare moments in reading and other studies in which he made great progress until his sixteenth year when he was apprenticed to the tayloring trade, which he followed till he arrived to manhood; then he was requested to teach a school; he accepted the offer and was for several years a successful teacher. In 1813, being then in his twenty-fifth year, he married Mary Reiff and commenced farming, besides working at his trade whenever he could. They had ten children, nine of which grew to manhood and most of them have families. In 1814 he was elected to the ministry, and about the year 1830 he was advanced to the office of elder or bishop, which he filled with untiring zeal and unflinching faithfulness until the day of his death, which occurred August 7, 1849, at the age of nearly sixty years. Of him it may well be said, "He preached the word; was instant, in season and out of season," sowing the divine seed on every side. Besides the cares of a large family and the faithful discharge of duties to the church at home, he traveled a great deal as an Evangelist, visiting the surrounding churches and assisting them at their councils, communion seasons, etc. Occasionally he also took far trips as missionary to other States, and visited many of the churches in Maryland, Virginia, and through the interior of Ohio, long before our modern facilities for travel had been estab-

lished, going in his own conveyance and also at his own expense, thus practically enforcing the precept: "Freely ye have received, freely give." As he was a preacher of more than ordinary ability, he had many calls from other denominations outside of his own people to labor for them in the work of the ministry. He had a powerful voice and a very retentive memory. Besides his fame as a preacher he was also a great vocalist, having a thorough understanding of the science of music, and sang with a wonderful command and compass of voice. He was also a poet of considerable ability, and wrote quite a number of German hymns, besides making many translations of popular and favorite English verses, a small collection of which were collected by me, and were published by J. E. Pfautz, at Ephrata, Pa., in 1858. He also wrote several sacred poems of considerable length—one on the "History of, and the promises to, the Patriarch Abraham." Another on the "History, and the Prophetic Denunciations of the Prophet Daniel," which were never published; besides miscellaneous matters in prose and verse. I will close this sketch by saying that he was in many respects far ahead of the times in which he lived, especially in matters relating to the church; as for instance, he favored meetings for social prayer and praise when they were persistently opposed by the church, but he persevered amidst a great deal of opposition until he finally succeeded in establishing them, and that too so firmly that they have since become the order of the church everywhere He was also a great friend and advocate of Sunday schools at a time when they were yet very unpopular among the Brethren; now they are cherished throughout the fraternity. (The sketch of Elder Isaac Price, who was

married to Hannah Umstead, and who lived near Phœnixville, in Chester county, we omit for certain reasons, being out of the neighborhood.) As most of the prices are living in Montgomery county, and being acquainted with them in all their generations, I would say for them in general that they have ever been identified with the most intelligent people of the country, and appear to have been a priestly race of teachers and preachers as far back as we have any knowledge of them; for their great ancestor, Jacob, as has been stated, was a preacher already in Europe nearly as soon as the Brethrens existed there. His son, Johannes or John, was also a preacher and a poet. Christopher Sauer, of Germantown, published a small collection of his hymns as early as 1753.

Daniel, son of the above, had at least two sons in the ministry, namely, John and George; the latter's son, John or Johnie, as he was familiarly called, became a preacher so young that he was usually called "the boy-preacher," but he became very eminent in the ministry, both in English and in German. This "Johnie" had three sons and all in the ministry, namely; Isaac, at Phœnixville, George, at Green Tree, and John, who was his father's successor at Coventry.

Old William's son, Jacob, of the fifth generation, was a minister, and his son, Jonas, was a minister in the church at Hatfield.

John, a brother to the celebrated William, was a preacher many years in the churches of Upper Dublin and Germantown, and his brother Daniel's son, Henry, of the sixth generation, is now in the ministry at Indian Creek.

Caleb, now of Knox county, Ohio, preached several years at Hatfield and Upper Dublin, besides several others, which make at least eighteen in the minis-

try that I know of. (I name yet one more, namely, Jonas, of Quakertown, Bucks county, of the seventh generation.)

* * *

Will conclude by saying that all the Prices in America, so far as known, are descended from two ancestries—the one described above, and the other was Philip Price, a Welsh Briton and a Quaker, who came over very early, we think about 1685, and settled at Haverford, on the old Lancester Road, about six miles from Philadelphia. Their early arrival is further proven by a record still existing which says their daughter "Frances Price married Thomas Rees, on the 27th day of the 2d month, 1692." Another record says their son, Isaac Price, was married to Susannah Shoemaker, on the 4th day of the 1st month, 1696. It is also further proven by a deed for another tract of land purchased the 6th day of the 8th month, 1697, etc. The celebrated lawyer and scientist, Eli K. Price, of Philadelphia, is of that stock.

"Concerning the Jacob Price above mentioned, we add a tradition, not related by Mr. Cassel, contributed by a correspondent signing himself 'D. E. B.,' writing from Doylestown, under date of January 19th, to the Pottstown Ledger. Referring to some peculiarities in the character and personal appearance of some of his descendants, he says: "'Black Hawk, the Indian Chief, in meeting a descendant of Jacob Price, claimed her as a daughter of his people. She had the eyes of his people. From this claim, made by the warrior, may it not be true that on the banks of Indian Creek the moccasins slipped into this 'priestly race.' Tradition says that Jacob was out with his gun and found 'a daughter of my people' in the bushes, left behind by the Indians, sick with fever; her eyes attracted him, he took her home, provided medicine and food: she got well and became his wife.'"

The above tradition from a correspondent was published at the end of one of Mr Cassel's sketches of the Price family some time ago, and is alluded to in the foregoing "Memoranda," not that she became the wife of Jacob, as here stated, but the wife of his son, John, as related by Mr. Cassel.

In conversation with Abraham H. Price, who still resides on the old homestead, not long ago, reference was made to this

matter and he declares it is not only tradition but truth. The mother of Daniel Price, of the third generation, was an Indian girl when his father, John Price, married her, and she made a very fine woman. Her parents and family connections resided on the farm in a log-house on the other side of the Indian Creek, until the latter part of the last century or longer.

The following account of a branch of the Price family which was published several years ago, is from quite another source, and is added to make the whole history more complete:

THE PRICE FAMILY.—TRACING THE LINEAL DESCENDANTS BACK SIX GENERATIONS—AN INTERESTING FAMILY TREE.—Aaron, the brother of Moses, was hardly more distinguished as the lineal head of the Hebrew priesthood, than was Jacob Price as the progenitor and head of a line of elders and ministers among the German Baptists or "Dunkers," of Pennsylvania, continuing down to the present day. This Jacob Price, who was born in Witzenstein, Prussia, about the beginning of the Eighteenth century, emigrated in 1719, and settled at Indian Creek, Lower Salford township, Montgomery county, where he took up land. He was small in stature—rather imperfectly developed physically—and not commanding in appearance, but a powerful preacher.

This man had one son, Johannas, also a minister at an early age. He became noted for his aptness in writing poetry. In 1753, Christopher Sower, of Germantown, published a collection of his hymns, but in spite of his talents he became so weakly that his father feared that he would not live to have issue, and, so anxious was the parent to leave a name and posterity behind him that he encouraged his son to marry while still very young. He did so and was blessed with two sons. The name of one was Daniel, whose posterity still live in the vicinity of the old homestead. The name of the other son was John, who moved to Franklin county, Pa., in early life. Of his descendants we know little except that they acquired property there, and several became conspicuous as servants of the church. The first named (Daniel) had thirteen children in all: but five sons and two daughters of whom left families behind them. Their names were John, George, Henrich, William, Daniel, Elizabeth and Hannah. Hannah married Jacob Weidner, and Elizabeth, John Clemmence.

John became a noted preacher and was the grandfather of Daniel Price, Esq., president of the National Bank of Pottstown.

George Price (brother to John) was elder of the Dunkard Church at Coventry, which at that time was a small house built of logs.

George Price had six children, namely: George, John, Daniel, Hannah, Mary and Sarah. Hannah married Adam Reinwalt; Mary married John Baugh, and Sarah married Israel Urner. Of this family only one (Sarah) is living.

John became a preacher so young that he was known as "Johnny Price, the boy-preacher." It was he who built the present church at Coventry. He had twelve children, two of them, Joseph and Elkanon, died while quite young. Three were preachers, namely: John R., now deceased, was elder of the church at Coventry; Isaac and George D., of Phœnixville. The others, Rebecca, Mary, Annie, Lydia, Sarah, Eliza and Hannah married as fol-

lows: Rebecca to George Wanger, Mary to Francis P. Bach, Annie to Jonas Leopold, Lydia to David Frick, Sarah to Jacob Harley, Eliza to Rev. John Harley, and Hannah to William Horning.

George Wanger, now deceased, who married Rebecca Price, was the father of Newton, Joseph P. and George F. Wanger, of North Coventry, and of Irving P. Wanger, of Norristown.

Francis P. Bach, of Philadelphia, who married Mary Price, is the father of William P. Bach, and Mrs. Aaron Hartenstein, of Pottstown; Mrs. Aaron Burns, of East Coventry; and Irving P. Bach and Mrs. Thomas W. Balderson, of Philadelphia.

Jonas and Annie Leopold are the parents of Howard Leopold, of Pottstown; Lieutenant E. A. Leopold, Elwood H. and Hermam Leopold, of East Coventry.

We have now given an account of six generations of the Price family, and what is most remarkable about them is, there have been one or more ministers in each generation.

NOTE.—The above sketch which we obtained *from quite another source* had been cut out of a newspaper, and we supposed had been written by a member of the Price family, at Phœnixville or Pottstown. But now Abraham H. Cassel comes in and claims the authorship of it, and is not willing that it shall pass as coming *from some other source*, excepting what relates to the Wanger and Bach descendants has been added. He says: "The Prices had so entirely lost their early history that they are now under obligations to me for about all they know of it; therefore I justly claim a monopoly of the information, and would therefore not like to let it go before the public as obtained from *quite another source*, as there really is *nothing from another source*." We were not aware of the fact that the greater part of said sketch had been copied from Auge's "Men of Montgomery County," for which it had been prepared by Mr. Cassel.

* * *

DIRK JOHNSON'S LAND.

We must say something more about the tracts of land granted to Dirk Johnson, who is also called Derick Janson. The name Johnson originally was Janson, and some families wrote their names Jans. They were Dutch, not German, but here they inter-married with the German element, being of the Mennonite faith; the name Jans, pronounced *Yons* in Ger-

DEATH OF REV. ISAAC PRICE.

AN AGED AND EXCELLENT MINISTER AND REFORMER NO MORE—BRIEF SKETCH OF HIS LIFE AND WORK.

Rev. Isaac Price, died of old age and other ailments, at his residence at Corner Stores, near Phœnixville, on Sunday night, the 19th inst., aged 82 years and 25 days. He was born in East Coventry township, Chester county, on the 24th of September, 1802, and was the son of Rev. John Price, a widely known and eloquent minister of the German Baptist denomination. The deceased taught school in early life, and at one period lived in Pottstown, and for a time was one of the editors and proprietors of the *Lafayette Aurora*, a newspaper started in Pottstown over sixty years ago. He subsequently removed to Schuylkill township, Chester county, where he commenced the store keeping business, which he continued nearly all his life, and was appointed postmaster there (about 1845,) and held that office under all changes of administration, until about two years ago, when he resigned. For a long time he enjoyed the distinction of being one of the oldest if not the oldest postmaster in the United States as to length of term. Mr. Price became a minister of the German Baptists nearly fifty years ago, and was a man of great ability as a speaker and orator. He preached principally at Green Tree, Montgomery county, but frequently at Price's Meeting House, North Coventry, and at the meeting house at Lawrenceville. He was not only active in the cause of religion, however, but took a leading part in the Sunday school work, and was a strong advocate of the abolition of slavery, and of the temperance cause. He stood high in his own religious denomination, as a pious and zealous Christian man, and enjoyed the love and respect of all other churches and people wherever he was known. His life work as a preacher of the gospel, as a reformer, and as a citizen, was truly a noble one. It may well be said of Isaac Price, as it was at the death of his father before him. "Lo! a great man is fallen in Israel!"

The suject of this sketch was the eldest of twelve children, ten of whom lived to become heads of families. These were Isaac, George, Rebecca, Mary, Hannah, Sarah, Eliza, Lydia, John R. and Annie Price There are now six survivors, George Price, living at Mont Clare, Montgomery county; Rebecca, widow of George Wanger, living at Norristown; Mary, widow of Francis S. Bach, of Philadelphia, mother of Burgess William P. Bach, of Pottstown; Hannah, wife of William Horning, of New Lebanon, Ohio; Lydia, widow of David Frick, of East Coventry; Annie, wife of Jonas Leopold, of East Covenery, mother of Howard Leopold, of Pottstown. Sarah was married to Jacob S. Harley, of Bucks county; Eliza to Rev. John Harley, of Pottstown, and Rev. John R Price, of North Coventry, was a prominent German Baptist minister, who died a few years since.

IRVING P. WANGER.

man, was masculine and the feminine was Jansin or Yonsin, which in the English took no distinction of gender, and consequently the two names, Janson and Jans, with their feminines were gradually merged into one name, Johnson. All the Johnson families in the middle district of the county are of Dutch ancestry. Leaving the name we will proceed to say something about the tract of land. If we examine the old conveyances belonging to the Price farms, we find that a warrant was granted to Dirk Janson, of Germantown, on the 15th of August, 1719, for 500 acres on or near Indian Creek, and if we examine the conveyance granted to John Isaac Klein, for the land now belonging to Henry Oberholtzer, Henry C. Delp and others, we find that it was part of 800 acres granted to Dirk Johnson, in two tract, the fifth day of the third month, 1719, and was confirmed to him by a patent dated January 30, 1732. The two dates of 1719 and the number of acres do not corroborate, but as the one grant of 800 acres was in two tracts, we find that the one tract was located over at Lederachville. It contained 225 acres, and was sold to Dielman Kolb, as already recited in the sketch of the latter. The other lands were on or near the Indian Creek. On January 30, 1732, a patent was granted to Dirk Johnson for 1050 acres of land, on or near the Indian Creek. It was of irregular shape and probably not all in one tract. It extended from the line of Gerhart Clemens' and Henry Ruth's land, at the Mennonite meeting house and along the Branch Creek, up the Indian Creek into Franconia. About 300 acres of it remained unsold at the time of Dirk Johnson's death. He made his last will and testament in writing dated January 11, 1755, and therein, after other things, devised to his son,

Richard Johnson, all the residue of the said great tract in these words: "Also all my land at Indian Creek, adjoining lands of Christian Moyer, Isaac Klein and Jacob Landis, respectively, in said county of Philadelphia, containing by estimate 300 acres, more or less," * * * and shortly after making his will the testator died. * * * The said Richard Johnson, by his last will and testament in writing, dated August 12, 1767, gave and devised the said 300 acres of land to his sister, Catharine Wister—probably wife of Casper Wister, in these words: "I give and bequeath to my sister, Catharine Wister, all my 300 acres, situated in Sulphur township, in the county of Philadelphia, on or near Indian Creek, adjoining lands of Daniel Price, Isaac Klein, Rudolph Harley and Jacob Landes, to her, her heirs and assigns forever," as in and by the said testament, duly proven and remaining in the Register's office at Lancaster, will appear; and shortly afterward the said Richard Johnson died. * * * The said Catharine Wister, by her last will and testament in writing, dated May 21, 1783, did grant and devise the said 300 acres to her two daughters, Catharine Greenleaf and Rebekah Morris, in these words: "I give and bequeath to my daughter, Catharine Greenleaf, one equal third part of all that tract of land in Salford township, near Indian Creek, in the county of Philadelphia, adjoining lands of Daniel Price, Isaac Klein, Rudolph Harley and Jacob Landes, which my said brother, Richard Johnson, by his last will and testament, devised to me, to hold to her my said daughter, Catharine Greenleaf, her heirs and assigns forever. ITEM.—I give and devise to my daughter, Rebekah Morris, the remaining two-third parts of the said tract of land in Salford, aforesaid, left to me by my said brother, Richard, to hold the

said two-third parts of the said Salford tract, with the appurtenances, to my said daughter, Rebukah Morris, her heirs and assigns forever," as in and by the said last mentioned testament, duly proven and remaining in the Register's office in Philadelphia, appears; and shortly after making and publishing the said testament the testator died. * * * This land was a kind of remnant in two tracts; one tract containing, perhaps, 160 acres was located along the Branch Creek and hills, north-west from the Salford meeting house, and was not worth much; it was bounded by lands of John Clemens, Henry Ruth and Daniel Price. The other tract was bounded by lands of Christian Moyer, Daniel Price, Rudolph Harley and Jacob Landes, who, it appears, lived where Nathaniel Landes now lives. This land laid high and dry, back from Jonas Delp's, and was not salable at that time. Christian Funk purchased 160 acres of it which left only a small tract remaining, containing yet ten acres, which was purchased by Henry Harley.

But it appears that in the first place this tract must have extended considerably into Franconia township, for all the acres in Salford belonging to the said tract, so far as known, do not number over 750. The tract purchased by Christian Funk was afterward sold to Abraham Detweiler, and after the death of the latter it was sold out in smaller tracts by his administrators, November 4, 1833.

Abraham Detweiler, whose residence was on the Indian Creek, in Franconia township, where John N. Clemens now lives, was a cousin to my grandmother, Heckler; he was a son of John Detweiler, whose residence was on the next farm above, on the north-west side of the said stream. Though we find that he also owned some

land along the line of Lower Salford, in Franconia in 1805, which now belongs to Samuel Musselman. John, or Hannes, Detweiler, as he was generally called, was a brother to my great-grandfather, Jacob Detweiler, who died in the latter part of the last century. John was twice married, and his second wife was Elizabeth, widow of John Horning. She died October 16, 1824. John Detweiler, born January 8, 1747, died July 1, 1826. His son, Abraham, born June 12, 1788, was married to Mary Hunsicker, and died December 10, 1830, aged forty-two years, five months and twenty-eight days. His widow lived to be very old; she lived at Freeland, now Collegeville, and died not many years ago. He left ten children to mourn his early departure, whose names were Elizabeth, Catharine, John, William, Isaac, Hannah, Mary Ann, Abraham, Daniel and Benjamin. Elizabeth, the oldest daughter, was married to the late George C. Reiff, of Skippackville. Letters of administration on the estate were granted to the widow, Mary Detweiler, Christian Detweiler and John Hunsicker. Abraham Detweiler owned a very large tract of land, and his estate was settled in 1834.

It has been requested by several friends that this historic farm, although it is in Franconia, should be taken along into the history of Lower Salford, because it was the residence of

HENRY FUNK,

and was at first in Salford, but in the formation of Franconia township, in 1731, it was included in that district.

There are some good reasons for giving room to a short sketch of this farm, because the name of Henry Funk appears in the list of tax-payers of Salford, in 1734. He came to Philadelphia in 1719, and apparently purchased of Dirk

Johnson 200 acres of land that same year yet. Besides, he was a minister and bishop in the Mennonite church, and officiated in that denomination, in Lower Salford, for many years, and therefore was very intimately connected with the early settlers of this township. He was married to Annie Moyer, daughter of Christian Moyer, and had ten children—four sons and six daughters. The sons were John, Henry, Christian and Abraham, and the daughters were Esther, Barbara, Anna, Mary, Fronica and Elizabeth. He made a very lengthy and explicit will, which he wrote with his own hand in the German language, about a year before he died, concerning his large estate, a translation of which is appended to this sketch. Besides his two-hundred-acre farm on the Indian Creek, he also owned a farm containing 166 acres, at the head waters of a branch of the Perkiomen, probably in Bedminster township, Bucks county, where a colony of Mennonites had settled. He also owned another tract with buildings and improvements thereon, which he had purchased from Ebenezer Kinnesly, but where that was located I cannot say. He built the first mill at that place, on the Indian Creek, and afterward divided his farm into two unequal parts, granting 137 acres and 146 perches to his son, Christian, and sixty-three acres and nineteen perches, with the mill and other buildings and improvements, to his son, Abraham.

It appears probable that there were two dwellings there already at that time, one for the miller and one for the farmer. The farm now belonging to Samuel Musselman also belonged to it at that time.

Henry Funk was the author two religious works, both German. The first was a small book entitled "*Spiegel der*

Taufe"—Mirror of Baptism, and the other, a larger work, was entitled "*Eine Restitution, oder eine erklaerung einiger hauptpunkten des gesetzes.*" This last work was published after his death; this I have read in part and it amounts to about this much—that he shows by the Mosaic dispensation that the restitution for the loss in the first man, Adam, was made in the second man, Christ. Many of his ideas and expressions do not corroborate with our more correct modern education, most especially when he illustrates the daily revolutions of the sun and moon around the earth; for we know that the sun is stationary, and is the centre around which all the planets revolve. Notwithstanding the incorrect views which he had, many of his views were correct and his motives sincere; he was a man of much experience and wide influence. He died in 1760, and apparently was not a very old man. His son, Christian Funk, held the old homestead after his father's death until the time of his demise, in 1811. After his death the farm was purchased by Abraham Detweiler, who died there in 1830, as already stated; and after his death the farm was purchased by William Horning, and was owned by him about ten years when he sold the same to Christian Young and removed to Dayton, Ohio, where he died only a few years ago. There has been considerably said about Christian Funk in the first part of my sketches in the "History of Harleysville" so that I do not deem it necessary to say much more about him. But will say that he like his father, was a large land holder, and owned a good deal of property. The old conveyances are lost, but we know that he received from his father 137 acres, and apparently purchased the mill and the remaining part of the farm containing 63 acres from his brother, Abraham, some time after the

death of his father. He also purchased 160 acres from the heirs of Dirk Johnson, Samuel Morris and wife, Rebecca , and Catharine Greenleaf, widow, August 2, 1790, (if I mistake not the date,) which was sold out in smaller tracts by the administrators of Abraham Detweiler, November 4, 1833, as already stated.

Since we know that John Detweiler owned land along the line of Salford, in 1805, which now belongs to Samuel Musselman, it appears very probable that he had purchased the said land from Christian Funk, and built the first house on that farm where Mr. Musselman now lives, since no one now living knows when or by whom it was built.

John Funk, of Elkhart, Indiana, editor of the *Herald of Truth*, a religious paper, published in the interest of the Mennonite church, who is a lineal descendant of Henry Funk, was in this neighborhood, perhaps about ten years ago, hunting up his genealogy, and through the assistance of Samuel W. Pennepacker, of Philadelphia, obtained a copy of Henry Funk's will, which he afterward published in its original German. It is a very interesting document. We deem the following to be a faithful translation thereof:

FRANCONIA Township, June 13, 1759.

THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF ME, HENRY FUNK.—Since we know that we have no abiding place in this sorrowful world, but through death must leave it in the hope of a better kingdom, so there is a presentiment in my mind that the time of my departure may be near at hand, although the time is not known to me. And as God hath blessed me and my deceased wife with a numerous family of children, as also my labors for the support of our lives, therefore I consider it my duty to write down those things which I desire to have observed after my said departure. And as it falls heavily on me to see how to order all things rightly, I shall therefore try to do as well herein as I can to the best of my knowledge as follows: and herewith I wish all those herein mentioned peace and righteousness in the name of the Lord.

I. After I shall have departed this life I desire to be buried in an orderly manner according to our customary and christian practice.

II. All the expenses for my funeral as well as all my just debts shall be paid in advance out of my estate in order that no one may sustain any loss thereby.

III. Whereas, my first wife, Anna, died on the 8th of July, 1758, and as there is no second wife there are no orders necessary in that respect.

IV. As my daughter, Esther, is lame in all her limbs, and until this day could neither stand nor walk of herself, and it is not probable that she will ever learn to walk; it is therefore necessary that provision should be made for the support and care for, this, my daughter. Therefore I, as father, give her: First, a good full suit of new clothes, such as are customary among us. Second, bedstead and good bedding, namely, for below and for covering, and pillows all well furnished. Third, £400, I say four hundred pounds of good current money out of my funds. Fourth, whereas, my late father-in-law, Christian Moyer, bequeathed to the said lame Esther the sum of £3, which three pounds I received, so those three pounds, including the interest thereof, shall be added to her share, for the use of the said Esther. It is therefore my will that the said Esther shall be well kept and cared for, of the same which I, by the blessings of God, have been able to give and bequeath to her, by my executors and their brothers and sisters as long as she shall remain in this poor and helpless condition.

V. For, and in which case, and for the administration thereof, I appoint as directors in this matter the Elders (Diakonos) in the church of Christ, denominated Mennonites, among whom I have served as minister for a long time, namely: Christian Moyer and Michael Derstein and their successors in office, with the consent of their colaborers; and if contrary to my expectations, through or from any cause or circumstance or change among my executors or heirs, it should so happen that their love for their said poor sister should decrease, and she should not be properly regarded and provided for, I do then, in such case, fully authorize the said elders and ministers of the aforesaid church to call to account my executors, or their heirs and executors, in regard to all that I have given the said Esther, and to take all that is yet remaining thereof into their care to provide for the wants of the said Esther, so long as it lasts, to get a good place for her and to pay for her keeping. And after Esther's departure, when all that concerns her has been paid for, the remainder, if there is any thing remaining, shall be divided among my heirs; and I am in the hope that my executors and heirs, as well also as the elders (deacons) of the said church, will bear this from me concerning their christian duty and observe the same in regard to the said poor Esther, to which may the grace of God be granted. ITEM.—It is also my will that besides those new clothes and bed for the said Esther, all her new clothes and bedding in the future shall be bought and paid for out of the aforementioned money which I have given to her, and whoever will keep the said Esther best and will take care of her shall have her in care first, that is for £12, I say twelve pounds annually, good current money out of her aforementioned legacy, and in case her infirmity unfortunately should increase so that she could not be kept for the said annual sum, then there shall be such addition made thereto as

those already mentioned shall see fit. In this way it is my will that the said Esther shall be cared for, in sickness and in health, with meat and drink, and lodging, and that she shall be kept clean in washing and mending her clothing and bedding, and that she shall be kept clean of lice and other vermin, as also of all other uncleanliness.

VI. My oldest son, John Funk, shall have his apprenticeship free and shall have £5, I say five pounds in money besides yet, above his equal share which he shall receive with his brothers and sisters.

VII. For, and in consideration of my land whereon I live, I have granted about 137 acres, I say one hundred and thirty-seven acres and one hundred and forty-six perches thereof, heretofore in the possession of my son, Christian Funk. For 136 acres thereof he shall pay £362, I say three hundred and sixty-two pounds, and in consideration of the one remaining acre and 146 perches he shall allow the miller (my son, Abraham Funk,) a full sufficiency of ground and space on the said land for a mill-dam and the head and tail-race, for the accommodation of the said mill in such way as may be done to to the best advantage, and as the same is at present arranged and occupied, without causing any hindrance to the water of the said mill. On the other hand, the said miller shall leave open a road for him who owns the above mentioned plantation (as his heritage remission of the said land,) at or near the said mill house, into his field toward the grave-yard; and as there are yet certain other 63 acres, I say sixty-three acres and nineteen perches of land left remaining of the same tract, I have granted this with the said mill thereon and all the appurtenances belonging to the said mill, including also all other buildings thereon, sometime already into the possession of my son, Abraham Funk, and valued the same to him at £338, I say three hundred and thirty-eight pounds, with this reservation that I can reside thereon as long as I please, or live.

VIII. The payment for the said plantation and the said mill shall be made in one and the same manner. First, after my decease the said Christian Funk shall pay to the said Esther the interest on two hundred pounds, but only at four per cent. In a similar manner, the said Abraham Funk shall pay the same on two hundred pounds at four per cent. And then the said Christian Funk, at the first May Fair or the Autumn Fair, whichever comes first after my death, shall pay of the principal the sum of £25, I say twenty-five pounds. In the same manner, Abraham Funk shall also pay the same amount. Thus shall each one separately continue to pay off each year until the whole amount has been paid. And when Esther's money has thus been paid out then my executors may put the same on interest into reliable hands; and if to my children then only four per cent. shall be taken. But if my executors can not lend out the money for want of reliable borrowers then my executors shall not be held responsible for the interest, and when Esther shall have passed away my children shall not pay any further interest thereon, but shall pay out the principal as it rightly belongs to be done.

IX. On account of disturbance there shall no public sale be made, and my movable property may be sold and divided by my heirs among themselves the best

way they can. And what concerns my outstanding debts (credits and bills) so shall they be collected in the same way as I have always done—by using no force against any man; and what is lost, or is regarded as lost, may be lost, and my heirs shall leave all such debts (or monies) uncollected, because I hope the blessing of God will bring it after to them in some other way, which point I desire may not be forgotten.

X. It is also my sincere will that soon after my death and funeral £5, I say five pounds of current money, shall be paid into the alms fund of the aforesaid church, denominated Mennonites, in which I served a long time as minister. And also in thankfulness to the Lord if the said Esther, through the goodness of God, should become so that she could walk, or if she could be brought out of her present condition, through the Lord, from the misery of this world into eternal rest, at the fulfillment of either of these events, when the said Esther shall be redeemed of her present miserable life, the sum of £10, I say ten pounds of the said estate, without any controversy, shall forthwith be paid into the alms fund of the aforesaid church.

XI. After a proper division has been made for each one's share of inheritance and bequests out of my estate as contained here in my testament, it is my will that the remainder of whatever name it may be, movable goods or money, or outstanding debts, as also what my married children have heretofore received, which is written down in my book kept for that purpose, shall be added together, and all this shall be divided into equal shares among my nine children, namely, my sons: John, Henry, Christian, and Abraham Funk; and my daughters, namely: Barbara, Anna, Mary, Fronica, and Elizabeth Funk. But those of them who have already received considerably shall not receive more until those who have received less have that much also, so that the shares of my said nine children shall all be alike; and those who have already received too much shall pay in proportion to the relation of things.

XII. The land on which Jacob Baer now lives I bought from Ebenezer Kinnesly, for which I have a conveyance, and gave him bonds for the money, so that I have paid, for the land, the expenses and the interest which gradually increased till to the present time, including the sum of £84, I say eighty-four pounds, three shillings and five pence. Besides this there is payable the sum of £50, I say fifty pounds, due on a bond to Dirk Johnson for the same land. Now if the said Jacob Baer, or his heirs, will pay the said debts on the said land then my executors shall give him my deed for the said land, with all my right therein to him, his heirs and assigns to hold, and also shall make and execute a deed for him out of the said deed, which shall be as binding as if I had made it myself. But in case my executors and heirs should be obliged to pay the said debt on the said land then they shall be authorized to sell a part of the said land, and, as already stated, to give the purchaser a lawful deed therefor, in order to repay the said debt on the said land, and then to leave the remainder of the said land to said Jacob, or to his heirs, and in such case to give a deed or title in the aforementioned way for the said land.

XIII. I have also a tract of land containing 166 acres, which I purchased of

the Manor lands, at the upper part of a branch of the Perkiomy, for £160, I say one hundred and sixty pounds, and paid for the said land, and have a deed for the same, which said land my son, Henry Funk, shall have for himself, his heirs and assigns, but as I have had considerable expense in the execution of a deed and the improvements on the said land, and for nails, etc., which altogether I estimate at £180, I say one hundred and eighty pounds, which it also was, and which is to be paid after my death in certain installments, namely: till the first coming Autumn Fair £10, I say ten pounds; till the second Autumn Fair £15, I say fifteen pounds; and so on at each Autumn Fair, £15, until the whole is paid for: but if any of these payments remain unpaid at the specified time, the same from that on shall pay interest therefor for the support of the said Esther, but after the death of the said Esther no interest shall be paid by my heirs on the said unpaid installments.

XIV. It is also my will and order that as soon as feasible after my death, my sons, Henry, Christian, and Abraham Funk shall have their conveyances for the to them bequeathed lands out of my titled possessions and conveyances, to them, their heirs and assigns, to have and to hold, which conveyances my four sons will make and execute among themselves, which will be as good and binding as if I had assisted them. But if any of my said sons should die before these things are consummated, and leave back descendent heirs, then the executors (or administrators) of the deceased shall unite with my other sons in executing those conveyances which shall then be as good and as binding as if my deceased son had made it himself. But if any one among them should behave himself disobediently to these publications, then those who are obedient thereto shall execute the said conveyances which shall then stand and shall be as good as if I had done it myself. And no one of my heirs shall in any way hereafter lay claim to any one of the said tracts of land. And it is also my further will that at the execution and delivery of the aforesaid conveyances or titles the owners of the therein contained lands, as already stated, each separately, shall give to my executors security in written obligations, bindingly made, that they, each separately will pay in lawful money the aforesaid stated sums for the same lands as it has already been ordered in this will.

XV. And I hereby appoint my two sons, John Funk, and Christian Funk, for my executors, and fully authorize them to act and deal conformably with my whole estate, and as co-heirs to conduct the whole administration in the aforementioned way, and more especially in regard to my beloved daughter, Esther, and her estate, in the hope that they willingly will do right toward each one, so far as it is possible for them as heretofore directed; and as it is not my will that my executors in their administration shall suffer loss hereby, so it is not my will nor intention, either, that my executors should take ten per cent. of the whole estate for services from their brothers and sisters; but for the time which my executors make use of, and for the expenses which they have more than my other heirs they shall under all such circumstances be compensated agreeably with righteousness and

christian satisfaction. It is my sincere will and request that all the said things might be made and finished in accordance with brotherly love, christian forbearance and righteousness, that no one may deserve censure on account of such trifling matters of worldly goods. And as for such as hereunto may be disobedient it will be well to make use of the instituted laws against them.

In conclusion hereto it is my sincere will and my unfeigned desire to my executors and heirs, and to the overseers of the aforesaid church, to administer all things in love and peace, to love the said poor Esther, and to attend well to her wants, in the hope that it will be servicable to them in the obtainment of a greater inheritance after this present time.

This my testament, or will, of me, Henry Funk, was written with my own hand, and was finished at the time I found myself in ordinary good health and sound mind. HENRY FUNK. (seal)

Jacob Funk.
Jacob Overholtzer.
Benedict Geman.

Since writing and publishing the former a pile of old conveyances has turned up, from which we will yet briefly note the most important points; some of which corroborate what has been published, but some do not, and will make such corrections as may seem necessary. In the first place we find that a warrant bearing date December 20, 1718, was granted to Henry Funk, then of Germantown, by the commissioners of property, Richard Hill, Isaac Norris and James Logan, and by virtue and in pursuance of said warrant "there was surveyed to him a certain tract of land situated on a branch of the Perkeawming creek," containing 101 acres and three-quarters, with allowance of six per cent., being in all about 108 acres. This tract extended from a certain corner southwest 166 perches, then northwest 104 perches, then northeast 166 perches and then southeast 104 perches, for which he paid £20, in lawful money, and the annual quitrent of one shilling sterling per 100 acres, on the first day of the first month (March,) and for this tract he received a patent dated December 20, 1733.

On the 1st of September, 1718, a warrant was granted to James Steel, of the city of Philadelphia, for 1000 acres, "on the

eastern branch of the Perkeawming creek," and from him Henry Funk purchased yet two adjacent tracts; one of them on the south-east of his other tract, the whole length thereof containing fifty-three acres, for which he paid £10, and received a conveyance dated December 24, 1719, which is witnessed by Jacob Taylor and Lidya Bolton. The other tract containing forty acres, for which he also paid £10, was granted November 14, 1729. By adding these three tracts together we have 201 acres in his farm on the Indian creek, corroborating the former statement concerning the number of years. We then pass on and notice that the conveyances granted by the executors of Henry Funk to his sons and heirs are dated June 26, 1760, and are very explicitly written. John Funk was a blacksmith by trade. He and his brother, Henry, both were residents of Hilltown township, Bucks county, showing that their father's farm, at the head waters of a branch of the Perkiomen, was not in Bedminster, but in Hilltown, that the land had been part of the manor of Perkasie. We then notice that the mill property and farm, containing sixty-three acres of land with buildings and improvements, granted to Abraham Funk by his father and confirmed to him by the executors at the said date, was owned by him only three years; for on the 28th day of March, 1763, he and his wife, Mary, conveyed the same to his brother, Christian Funk, for £800, lawful money.

The graveyard, at that time in George Delp's field, was denominated the "Mennonists burial ground."

We further find that Christian Funk did not purchase 160 acres from Catharine Greenleaf, Samuel Morris and his wife, Rebecca, in 1790, as stated in a previous sketch, but only forty acres.

I thought I had the information from a reliable source, but on further investigation it appears that I was mistaken.

Christian Funk's wife, Barbara, died December 29, 1792, and on July 29, 1794, he conveyed his vast plantation, containing 241 acres and fifty-one perches of land with grist-mill, water rights, buildings and improvements, to his son-in-law, John Detweiler, for £3300, in gold and silver.

Christian Funk died May 31, 1811, aged eighty years. The said John, or Hannes, Detweiler, as he was familiarly called, was a son of John Detweiler, of Perkiomen, or Bebber's township, as it was then called. Among the old conveyances handed to me for examination is one granted to his father by Edward Shippen and his two brothers, Joseph and William, and their wives, all of the city of Philadelphia, for 182 acres of land, in 1743. This farm or tract of land was bounded on the north-east by lands of Jacob Markley, on the south-east by the line of Bebber's township, on the south-west by lands of Rachel Du Bois and John Pawling, and on the north-west by the said Pawling's land. It extends 200 perches along Merkley's land, 154 perches along the township line, and was probably located near the mouth of Zachariah creek. John Detweiler, of the second generation, was a resident of Franconia township when he purchased that farm from his father-in-law, Christian Funk. His first wife was Funk's daughter. He is yet remembered by very old people, and in his old age he lived on the next farm above, on the north-west side of the Indian creek, while his son, Abraham, lived where John N. Clemens now lives, as aleady stated. There is also a conveyance here showing that Jacob Overholtzer, the Mennonite minister, to whom reference has several times has

been made in previous sketches, lived near the Indian creek, on the next farm above Funk's. He was the only son of Jacob Overholtzer, deceased, and had three sisters, named, Barbara, Ann and Elizabeth. Their farm containing 200 acres had been purchased in two tracts. Barbara was a widow, and is called Barbara Funk; Ann was the wife of Mathias Stauffer, of Conestoga township, Lancaster county, and Elizabeth was the wife of Jacob Hackman, of Franconia. On the 30th of July, 1756, the said three daughters and their husbands conveyed the said farm to their brother, Jacob Overholtzer, Jr. The said Mathias Stauffer very probably was a son of Christian Stauffer, of Lower Salford, and in later years purchased his father's farm, and lived on it during the time of the Revolution; the name of his wife was Ann.

RUDOLPH HARLEY.

The early records or conveyances belonging to the farm now owned by Yellis Cassel have been lost, and therefore its early history is not very definitely known; though so much has been ascertained that a pretty good account of it can be given. Abraham H. Cassel, whose residence is also on the same farm, says he has gone to much trouble to hunt up the old conveyances, but has not been able to find any; though he found a few references to it in conveyances of adjacent tracts. So much is known of the early history of the place that it belonged to John Henry Schneider for many years. His name appears in the tax list of Salford in 1734, and here he lived, where he was rated on 100 acres of land at that time, but how long he lived here before that date and from whom he purchased the land or what were his exact number of acres, we cannot say. But apparent-

ly, the original tract contained all that land now contained in the main farm belonging to Yellis Cassel, and that of John Shisler and the farm belonging to Aaron H. Moyer, and what at first belonged to Adam Hartman's and George Hangey's farms. This tract, apparently, might have contained about 150 acres. But John Schneider was a speculator who tried to increase his acres and purchased additional tracts, extending up nearly to the Branch creek, where he purchased a tract in 1739. But as we have no early conveyance we cannot give a definite description thereof, but must be contented with references found in other conveyances by Abraham H. Cassel.

In the "History of Harleysville" it is stated that the land on both sides of the great road from Jacob Price,s land northwest 270 perches belonged to John Isaac Klein, and after him to Richard Klein, whose residence was where Jeremiah Shelly now lives. The whole tract contained 301 acres, and its north-east and south-west sides were 270 perches or over three-fourths of a mile long, extending up at least as far as Weishey's place. But how much of that land was located on the east side of the great road I cannot say. He owned that great tract twenty-two years, and then he and his wife conveyed it to their two sons, Jacob and Richard, March 11, 1758. Richard Klein owned his part of the tract, bordering on Daniel Price's land, yet in 1787. So that John Schneider never owned that land, now belonging to Rev. Jonas Harley and others, though it was probably purchased from Mr. Klein by Rudolph Harley in the latter part of the last century. In the spring of 1754 John Schneider purchased from Charles Schwartz and wife the farm now belonging to Frank Nice, formerly the property of William Kulp, but did not own it over

four months, for on August 3, 1754, he and his wife, Blandino, conveyed and confirmed the same to Martin Shawecker. It had evidently been bought only for speculation. At that time Rudolph Harley was still living where Enos Wambold now lives, and purchased a small strip of land from John Schneider and wife in the short time that he owned the aforementioned farm. Rudolph Harley owned the Wambold farm from 1744 to 1784, a period of forty years, which, at the time he sold it, contained at least 244 acres. In the tax list of 1760 we still find the names of John Schneider and his son, Adam, in Lower Salford, but he probably died soon afterward; at any rate his farm on the Indian Creek was purchased by Rudolph Harley, in 176[illegible] or about that time, and it is said, he afterward owned the land on the north-east side of the pike, from the meeting house up to Tobias Nace's place, but as the conveyances are lost we cannot vouch for it all.

Rudolph Harley, born July 14, 1719, was a son of Rudolph Harley, Sr., who it is claimed, came to America in 1719, and his son, it is said, was born on the vessel while his parents were making their voyage. Though it is uncertain whether they came from Germany or from England, since there were prominent men of the Harley family inboth of those countries at the same time. But because of their identification with the Brethren or Dunkard church the preponderance of probability would fall on the German side for this family. Besides, Mr. Cassel had a book which he sold, a work on theology, in German, published soon after the Reformation, whose author was Dr. Samuel Harley, proving that the Harleys were German. On the other hand we find that there were prominent men of the Harley family in England, such as Robert Harley, who came to

the front in English politics and took an active part in the government under Queen Anna, from 1701 to 1714, when it pleased the Queen to promote him to Earl of Oxford. And then we have Thomas Harley, a resident of Kingsham Court, in Herefordshire, who purchased 5000 acres of land from William Penn, July 4, 1682. This land was located partly in Hatfield, partly in Franconia and perhaps partly in some other township, or county. With these remarks on the nationality of the Harleys we will leave the subject for others to discuss.

Rudolph Harley, Jr., married Mary, daughter of Elder Peter Becker, of Germantown, the first minister of the Brethren church in America, and raised thirteen children, whose names we will give in English as John, Joanna, Lena, Mary, Rudolph, Elizabeth, Jacob, Henry, Sarah, Samuel, Joseph, Mary Margaret, and Abraham.

Rudolph Harley was a resident of Lower Salford at the time he purchased that farm containing 170 acres, where Enos Wambold now lives. His name does not appear in the tax list of 1734, for he was not married yet at that time. His marriage apparently must have taken place about the year 1740, when he was about twenty-one years of age, and then, it is said, he first moved to Amwell, in Hunterdon county, New Jersey, but did not remain there long. He then lived on the farm belonging to Enos Wambold, about eighteen years and the remainder of his life, at Indian creek. He was a member of the Brethren or Dunkard church, and was one of the directors of the poor of Lower Salford in 1764. He was one of the supervisors of the township in 1769 and in 1770. He made his last will and testament in writing, dated May 14, 1796, which was proven August 1, 1809, soon after his death, at which event he consequently

was over ninety years of age. His wife, Mary, also died soon afterward. His son, Jacob, was not married, and it is said, he was to have 125 acres of land to the message where Rev. Jonas Harley lives, valued at £750, to be paid for by annual installments of £30 each, providing he would marry. But in case he would not marry his brother, Abraham, was to have the farm for £800. Jacob did not marry, and Abraham consequently received the farm.

Since writing the former we have had this traditional matter investigated and find it nearly correct, as follows, "ITEM: First, I give to my son, Jacob, part of my plantation whereon I live, 120 acres, to him, his heirs and assigns forever, valued at £750. * * * If he should die without issue, then Abraham is to have it for £800." This is merely an extract of the long and explicit item.

John Harley, of the third generation, the oldest son of Rudolph, the second, born August 16, 1741, married a woman whose name is not known, and, it is said, they had eleven children, but it is not known what the names of their children were excepting one, Rudolph. They lived in Pikeland township, Chester county. Rudolph had a farm and valuable merchant mill, and was at one time in good circumstances. But in advanced age he married a second wife, who had been his housekeeper. She was a widow and had a number of children, and they together had yet one when he was nearly eighty-one years old. She was an artful Delilah in providing for her own children. She prevailed on him in getting him to sign her instrument of writing when he was quite old. She died soon afterward, and his estate went to her children, leaving him in extreme poverty with his one little child. At that time he lived near Mercersburg, in Franklin county,

Pa., but was obliged to go begging, and came all the way back here to his friends at Indian creek and elsewhere on foot for assistance, about the year 1840, being about eighty-one years old.

Joanna Harley, the second child and oldest daughter of Rudolph, born April 21, 1743, married Hans Ulrich Stauffer, though he generally wrote his name Han Ully. He was a son of Christian Stauffer, of Lower Salford, whose residence was where Isaac D. Alderfer now lives. He and his brother, Mathias, were the two executors who settled their father's estate, in 1782-3. (See sketch of Christian Stauffer.) He lived on the Branch creek, in east Upper Salford, where one of his descendents, whose name was John, an excentric shiftless fellow, lived yet some years ago, starving his cattle and neglecting his crops until he became quite poor. John Ulrich, or Han Ully, Stauffer and his wife, Joanna, had thirteen children, namely: Rudolph, who lived in Coventry township, Chester county: Henry, who lived in Gwynedd township, Christian, who lived at Kulpsville, known as "Little Christian," the grandfather of Christ Stover, the harness maker, of the same place; John, who lived on the old homestead in Upper Salford, and Catharine, wife of Jacob Wisler, Hannah, wife of Benjamin Frederick, of Coventry township, Chester county, who had twenty children; the excentric Isaac Frederick, who used to stroll around over the country, was one of them: Elizabeth or Bettie, wife of David Titlow, father of John Titlow, also of Coventry township, Chester county; Rachel, wife of Isaac Overholtzer, and others who are not known.

Lena, the third child of Rudolph Harley, born May 4, 1747, wes twice married. Her first husband was a Landis, and

her second husband was Frederick Diehl. It is said she had nine children, but her descendents are so much scattered, and many of them in the western States, that very little is known of them.

Rudolph Harley, the fifth child of Rudolph, the second, born February 7, 1749, was twice married. His first wife was Barbara Bach, and the second a Miss Bomberger, an aunt to the celebrated doctor and elder, Christian Bomberger, of Lancaster county. This Rudolph Harley, of the third generation, lived in Chester county and had nine children. He also had a son, Rudolph, who lived near the Brandywine; a son, Samuel, who was lame and was the foster-father of Eli Slifer, of Harrisburg notoriety; and John and Abraham; and Jacob, who was many years a preacher in the Brethren church in Coventry, and was the father of John Harley, at present a minister of the same church, residing in Pottstown. They had a daughter named Barbara, married to one Stager; and Mary, wife of David Krupp; and one who was the wife of Joseph Reiff, of North Coventry township; and another daughter who unfortunately had an illigitimate child, but who afterward married and became a respected woman. By his second wife he had only one child, named Benjamin, who is probably still living.

Elizabeth Harley, the sixth child of Rudolph, born September 9, 1750, married Christian Dettra. They lived in Worcester township, and, it is said, had ten children, among whom were John, Isaac, Zachariah, Christian, Jr., Abraham and a daughter who was married to a Hallman.

Jacob Harley, the seventh child of Rudolph, born June 8, 1752, was never married, as already stated; he received 120 acres of his father's farm. He was accidently killed by the kick of a horse when he was old.

Henry Harley, the eighth child of Rudolph, born July 1, 1754, married Elizabeth Keely, a sister to Conrad, Henry and Valentine Keely, and, it is said, had sixteen children. They lived on their father's farm, in Lower Salford, where Enos Wambold now lives, and then bought the same in 1784, and owned it sixteen years, or until 1800, when they removed to Worcester township and eventually died there. He took an active part in the affairs of the township, while he lived in Lower Salford, and held various offices, but how he did in Worcester I cannot say. They had a son, Rudolph, who lived in Philadelphia, and left his estate to the Brethren or Dunkard church of the city, of which he was a member. They also had a son, Henry, who after their demise owned their farm, and a son, John, who married a daughter of Henry Stong, the tanner, and afterward learned the tanning and currying business from his father-in-law; a son, Samuel, and a daughter Mary, who married Mathias Tyson, and Catharine, wife of Jacob Bean, and Sarah, who married Jacob Detweiler, and Rachel, wife of Joseph Landis, and Hannah, who died an old maid, and Ann or Nancy, who married John Rosenberger, and Margaret, wife of Henry Clymer, and others who perhaps died young.

Sarah Harley, the ninth child of Rudolph, born June 20, 1756, married George Price and had six children, whose names were George, John, Daniel, Hannah, Mary and Sarah, as already related in the concluding sketch of the Prices, which see.

Samuel Harley, the tenth child of Rudolph, born March 6, 1758, married Catharine, the second daughter of Christopher Saur, of Germantown, May 10, 1785, and lived in Harleysville, as already related at length in the history of said village.

Joseph Harley, the eleventh child of Rudolph, born March 14, 1760, was a bachelor until he was nearly fifty years of age when he married Catharine, daughter of Jacob Reiff, and widow of William Price, deceased, as already related in the sketch of the Prices. He afterward owned the farm now belonging to Joseph M. Cassel, and finally died there November 9, 1835, aged seventy-five years, seven months and twenty-five days. His wife, Catharine, born November 8, 1761, died December 25, 1840, aged seventy-nine years, one month and nineteen days. She is buried by side of her first husband in the Prices' family burying ground, while her second husband is buried in the Harleys' graveyard in Franconia, to which he bequeathed $200 as a fund in the hands of a trustee, the interest of which were to be used to keep a fence in repair around the graveyard for ever. But recently the principal has been taken to build sheds and make other improvements at that place and elsewhere which can not be looked at otherwise than as very unwise and unlawful of those who did it, or perhaps they themselves intend to make bequests to that place for the same purpose hereafter.

Mary Margaret Harley, the twelfth child of Rudolph, born September 13, 1762, married Jacob Detweiler, and, it is said, had eleven children. They had a son, Jacob, who moved to Canada, a son, John, who hung himself in Upper Providence, and Joseph who was twice married, and a son Abraham who is still living near Markley's mill, on the Skippack, and Christian, who drowned himself in a well in West Perkiomen, and Catharine, wife of George Detweiler, the Mennonite preacher, deceased, another daughter was married to a Hallman, who lived near the Schuylkill, another to a Rosenberger, and others whose names are

not known.

Abraham Harley, the thirteenth and youngest child of Rudolph, born June 14, 1765, married Christiana Giesz and had ten children, whose names were Jacob, Rudolph, Abraham, Mary, Samuel, John, Elizabeth, Benjamin, Henry and William. Christiana Giesz was a child of whose parentage nothing is known; she was partly raised by old Rudolph Harleys,' and after she was of age and free, she remained in the family as maid until their son, Abraham, fell in love with her and married her. She was of an amiable disposition and made a very devoted and worthy wife who raised a large and respectable family of children. Abraham Harley became the owner of his father's farm on the Indian creek, now belonging to Yellis Cassel, including the tracts which have since been sold off. He also owned the farm now belonging to his grandson, Rev. Jonas Harley, and perhaps other tracts which we are not aware of, because the old conveyances are lost. It is said he owned 325 acres. He granted a water right and right for a dam and ditch in his meadow to John Price, August 3, 1818, as already stated in the sketch of the Prices. This is a historic farm because it belonged to a historic family, many of whose members have been identified with the church of the Brethren ever since the church was planted on American soil, some of them have been eminent ministers. Abraham Harley became weakened in his mind in his old age, he experienced much misfortune and sorrow in his declining years. His property was siezed and sold by the sheriff to satisfy the debts of his son, Abraham, as will be related further on. His son, Samuel, built, or perhaps rebuilt, the messuage where his son, Jonas Harley, now lives, and in the latter years of his life Abraham and his wife lived there also.

Abraham died there September 20, 1833, aged sixty-eight years, three months and six days. His wife, ~~Catharine~~ Christiana, died near Waltz's school house some years later. She is yet remembered as a model christian.

Jacob Harley, the oldest son of Abraham, born February 19, 1787, was twice married; his first wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Jacob Krupp, of Towamencin, and a sister to the eminent Mennonite minister, John Krupp, of the same township, and to the excentric Abraham Krupp, of flying machine celebrity, as already related at length in the "History of Harleysville." By his first wife Jacob Harley had five children, whose names were John, Abraham, Annie, Mary and Philip; these all died young excepting Philip, who is still living at Alburtis, in Lehigh county, though he is an old man. Jacob Harley was a successful merchant, who lived near the Presbyterian church, below Fair-View Village, four miles above Norristown, where he carried on the merchantile business many years. His second wife was Susanna Johnson, by whom he had only one child, a son, Mathias, who is a successful merchant at Fair-View Village. Jacob Harley died April 20, 1846, aged fifty-nine years, two months and one day.

Rudolph Harley, the son of Abraham, married an illegitimate daughter of a Mrs. Hendricks, and owned an oil mill on the Macoby creek, above Sumneytown, where, after residing awhile, he was sold out by his creditors. He then moved to Lancaster county, and from there to Bloomington, Fulton county, Illinois, where he died. He had six or seven children, but they are all out West and their names are not known.

Abraham Harley, the third son of Abraham, born about the year 1790, married Catharine, daughter of John Reiff, of Lower Salford, and had several chil-

dren, but only the name of one, Abraham, is known. He purchased a fine, valuable mill property in Chester county and pursuaded his father, Abraham, to go his security for $6,000, and, after running his mill some years, failed, when his father's property, on the Indian creek, was seized and sold by the sheriff, Philip Boyer, by virtue of a writ of *vendition exponas*, issued by the Court of Montgomery county, and the sheriff's deed poll, bearing date August 25, 1825, to satisfy the creditors, as already stated. Abraham Harley and family afterward removed to Union, Montgomery county, Ohio; being a Dunkard preacher already before he went out there, he became an eloquent speaker in both German and English, and was highly distinguished; but in later years he became such a strong Restorationist that some people considered him a Universalist and the church refused his services. He lived to be nearly ninety years of age.

Mary Harley, the fourth child of Abraham, born October 8, 1792, married Jacob Price, as already related in the sketch of the Prices, and was the mother of thirteen children. She died April 12, 1881, aged eighty-eight years, six months and four days.

Samuel Harley, the fifth child of Abraham, born November 26, 1795, married Elizabeth Klein and had two children. He lived on the farm in Upper Salford, where his son, Jonas, now lives, and put all those buildings there. He was a minister and bishop or elder in the Dunkard or Brethren church, and was one of the most eloquent and influential speakers the church ever had. He became widely known and highly distinguished as a speaker and orator in the German language. He died October 20, 1878, aged eighty-two years, ten months and twenty-four days.

John Harley, the sixth child of Abraham, born January 17, 1798, married Margaret Metz, and had only one child, a daughter, Mary, who died in her sixteenth year, in 1836. He was a farmer by occupation, and died April 9, 1833, aged thirty-five years, two months and twenty-two days. His wife, Margaret, born April 27, 1793, died April 3, 1877, aged eighty-three years, eleven months and six days.

Elizabeth, the seventh child of Abraham Harley, died young; her age is not known.

Benjamin Harley, the eighth child of Abraham, born about the year 1802, is yet living, aged about eighty-six years. He married Mary Freed and had two children, but his wife died in 1868, and his daughter, Nancy, several years ago. His son, Abraham is still living. Benjamin Harley was a shoemaker by trade; he also was a minister and an ordained elder in the Dunkard or Brethren church, but on account of his advanced age has retired from his labors.

Henry Harley, the ninth child of Abraham, born October 7, 1804, was married three times, but left no issue. His first wife was Catharine Shott, who died April 13, 1851. His second wife was Widow Harriet Nice, and daughter of John Detweiler.

His third wife was Elizabeth Price, and she is yet living. He died June 13, 1883, aged seventy-eight years, nine months and six days.

William Harley, the tenth and youngest child of Abraham, married Mary Shott. They lived halt a mile east of Harlysville, where Isaac Nice lives, and had one child, a son, William. His wife died there and he some time afterward removed to Philadelphia, where he died several years later. His son, William, left the neighborhood and disappeared before the civil war broke out.

Concerning the farm belonging to Yellis Cassel, it has been stated that it was sold by the sheriff, Philip Boyer, in 1825. It was then represented as containing 140 acres, and was purchased by Philip Gable, of Upper Salford, who was one of the chief creditors. It appears that Mr. Gable then sold to Abraham Detweiler, of Franconia, all that tract on the other side of the meadow, now contained in the farms of Aaron H. Moyer, George Hangey, Adam Hartman and others, and then had remaining 103 acres and 125 perches of the best land belonging to the messuage, which he sold to George Delp, of Lower Salford, September 5, 1826. Mr. Delp then built that house, which was recently rebuilt on the farm of John Shisler, for his son, Leonard Delp, in 1827, if I am rightly informed. George Delp owned this farm only a little over three years, when he and his wife, Rachel, conveyed the messuage and seventy-nine acres and 149 perches to Abraham Nice, of Upper Salford, for $3,500, March 29, 1830. That would have given twenty-three acres and 136 perches to the messuage built for Leonard Delp, who probably owned that small farm about six years, for in 1834 we find him owning a farm on the Skippack. Abraham Nice owned this farm four years, but in the meantime reduced it to seventy-four acres and fourteen perches, when he and his wife, Elizabeth, conveyed it to William Nice for $3,800, March 29, 1834, and thereby must have made over $400 clear money.

William Nice owned this farm only one year, when he and his wife, Susanna, sold the same to Yellis Cassel for $4,400, March 28, 1835, clearing $600 by the operation. This farm then belonged to Yellis Cassel twenty-one years. Soon after owning this property he built a new house there, which is now own-

ed and occupied by his grandson, Yellis. The old log-house stood down where the residence of Abraham H. now stands. In 1856 Yellis Cassel conveyed this property to his son, Abraham H. Cassel, who owned it fourteen years and then conveyed it to his son, Yellis, the present owner, in 1870. The barn is new and was built by the present owner a few years ago. We will now close our sketch of this farm and say in conclusion that we are greatly indebted to Abraham H. Cassel for statistics and information relating to the Harley family and to this farm. It is customary to praise men after they are dead, but it would not be the fair thing to pass by so distinguished a man as Abraham H. Cassel, who is still living, without also giving some account of him.

The following is taken from "Biographies, Men of Montgomery County," by M. Auge, of Norristown, a book otherwise entitled "Lives of the Eminent Dead and Biographical Notices of Prominent Living Citizens of Montgomery County, Pa.".

ABRAHAM H. CASSEL.

Contributed by

SAMUEL W. PENNEPACKER.

This remarkable man, whose memory will be cherished as long as the German race exists in Pennsylvania, is a descendant in the fifth generation of Hupert Kassel, who came to this county about 1715. Johannes Kassel, who settled at Germantown in 1686, was probably an uncle of the old Hupert. Among the earlier Kassels living at Kriesheim, on the Rhine, were some who became noted as zealous preachers of the Mennonite faith, and authors doing good service in the controversial literature of their day. Confessions of faith and poems in the handwriting of these worthy forefathers, who lived and died over 200 years ago, are still preserved by their descendants.

On the maternal side Abraham H. Cassel is the great-grandson of Christopher Saur, the celebrated printer of Germantown, whose glory it is, not so much that he stood at the head of the men of his race, and wielded a potent influence in all the affairs of the province, as that he printed the Bible in German in Pennsylvania forty years before it was issued in English anywhere in America.

Those who believe in the permanence of inherited characteristics may see in these facts a cause for the growth of literary taste in Mr. Cassel. But however correct this theory may be, it is certain that no germ ever struggled forward into the light of day under more adverse circumstances than in this instance.

He was born in Towamencin township, Montgomery county, on the 21st of September, 1820, and reared in an interior German settlement, at such a distance from the outside world that only in recent years has a railroad approached within five miles of his residence; among a people whose highest ambition is the accumulation of land, which they only acquire by hard labor and rugged self-denial; and whose sole literary food is the Bible or sermon of the Dunker or Mennonite preacher—a farmer like themselves. His immediate ancestors and parents were plain and worthy people, whose views of life were limited to the sowing of the seed and the gathering in of the harvest; and who felt in their consciences that to permit a child to spend his time over books was to start him upon the broad way which leads to destruction.

When Abraham was a few years old his grandfather used to take him on his knee and tell him of the days when the Revolutionary army was encamped on the Perkiomen and Skippack, and it was the impression made by these incidents which first

awakened within him the desire to learn, and gave his mind an antiquarian bent. His father finding that his fondness for books was increasing, and fearing that it would lead him entirely away from useful labor, sternly endeavored to repress it. Fire, money and light were denied him, and even the rod was not spared in the effort to crush the supposed evil propensity. The boy was therefore compelled to persue his studies by stealth, as he had opportunity—in the wagon-house, in the hay-mow, and late at night while others were asleep. About six weeks' tuition at a country school house was all the instruction he received. In childhood he learned to speak the *patois*, called Pennsylvania Dutch, but he has since taught himself German and English, in both of which languages he is entirely proficient. He has also some acquaintance with Dutch, Latin, French and Greek. He learned to write with a chicken feather, which a kind relative showed him how to split at the point. When a young man he began to teach school, and in this occupation continued for eight years. While boarding around in the farmers' houses, in lieu of salary, as was the custom, he found the opportunity of his life in learning the whereabouts of those rare old tomes, long since neglected and forgotten, which the religious enthusiasts who settled Pennsylvania brought with them across the Atlantic, or reprinted here for their spiritual delectation. In early youth he began to invest his spare earnings in books, and now, at the age of fifty-eight (in 1879), he has a library of over 10,000 volumes, which is in some respects one of the most remarkable in the world, and in its own particular specialties stands entirely alone. It would be impossible within the limits of such a notice as this to give an adequate idea of his valuable collection. It is in the

main a theological and historical library in English and German, though not confined to those subjects of language. In the works of the fathers of the Church of the Reformed of the sixteenth century, and in the early printed Bible, it is particularly rich. The literature of the Dunker church, specimens of which are difficult to find elsewhere, is here seen entire. It contains much literary *bric-a-brac*, such as a copy of the works of John Bunyan in folio, 1736, having on its title-page the autograph of George Whitefield; a ponderous folio Bible, which was chained to the pulpit in the parish of South Cowden, England; the marriage certificate of Henry Frey and Anna Catharine Levering, dated Second month (April) 26,1692; manuscript in the handwriting of Frances Daniel Pastorius, the "Pennsylvania pilgrim;" and of Johannes Kelpius, the learned "Hermit of the Wissahickon."

Here also is the celebrated proclamation of Washington, issued in 1777, directing the farmers to thrash out their grain. Its chief value to the scholar, however, and its principal interest for the man of general culture, consists in the fact that it is a substantially complete and almost the only collection of the early German publications of this country—books, pamphlets, and ephemera. Here and here alone, may be found all of the rare imprints of Christopher Saur, of Germantown, including the three quarto Bibles of 1743, 1763 and 1776, and about one hundred and fifty other volumes and pamphlets: the *Geistliche Magazin*, which was the first religious magazine of the country; files of the newspaper which was also the first of the country; and a complete set of German almanacs beginning with 1738 and reaching down to the present date. Here is also the fullest collection in existance of the still more rare

Ephrata imprints, and among them an unusually fine copy of Van Braghts "Martyrer Spiegel," the noblest specimen of American colonial bibliography and a lasting monument to the religious zeal of Mennonites. Franklin, Armbruster, Miller, Leibert, Billmeyer, and all of the early Pennsylvania printers, have alike contributed their abundant volumes and pamphlets. In fact, it may be said with substantial truth that to the patient research and unwearied enthusiasm of this unassuming man, we owe the preservation of the history of the Germans of Pennsylvania. *Seidensticker*, Rupp, Jones, Harbaugh, Weiser, and others, have written meritoriously and ably but away back at a farmhouse near Harleysville, in Montgomery county, is the well from which the waters have been drawn. It would be unjust to Mr. Cassel to call him technically a "collector," a name generally given to a man who pays a large price for the privilege of transferring a rare book from a shelf where it is of no use to another where it is equally valueless. His work has been largely creative and his volumes have in many instances been saved by him from destruction. From garrets, in which they were lost; from spring-house lofts and granaries, where they were the prey of the storm; and from the waste packages of the country grocers his materials have often been rescued. In the search for his treasures he has traveled thousands of miles, and oft times a book has only been made complete by putting together fragments found in widely separated localities, and when secured they have not lain idle, but became the subject of his deepest study and the source of his greatest delight. To him the humble emigrant of the time of Penn sallying forth from his log cabin to reclaim the forest while his

thoughts were busied with the trials of that long journey from the Rhine, the forgotten pastor who tended his little flock a century and a half ago, are as familiar in the events of their lives as is the present owner of the adjacent farm. To him the past, like the sea of which we are told, has given up the dead which were in it, and with a generosity as unselfish as it is rare, his information is at the service of all who care to seek it.

Mr. Cassel's reputation has extended to all parts of the world wherever men are enlightened to take an interest in books. He has been a member of the Pennsylvania Historical Society since 1858, and has contributed valuable articles to its publications. On the 1st of April, 1843, he married Elizabeth, daughter of Issachar and Elizabeth Rhodes, and they had eight children. In addition to his library he owns a farm of seventy-five acres, and by industry and frugality has accumulated what is considered a competence by the unpretentious people among whom he lives. His descent from the emigrant, Hupert Cassel, is traced thus: From Hupert to Yellis, and from the latter to Hupert again, and from Hupert, of the third generation, back once more to Yellis, of the fifth, who was the father of Abraham H. Cassel, of the sixth. The remainder of the sketch relating to their children is omitted. The farm now belongs to their son, Yellis.

CHRISTIAN MOYER.

The Moyer family, in eastern Pennsylvania, is so large that it must be traced to numerous ancestors of the same name. We find the name, however, variously written in old manuscript, as Moyer, Myer, Meyer and Meier which was originally all the same name. Christian Moyer, the ancestor of the Moyers, in Lower Salford and elsewhere, came to Pennsylvania at an early day and pur-

chased his farm containing 150 acres here in Lower Salford, in 1718 or 1719, and built his first log-cabin where Joseph Drissel now lives; for we find by a conveyance granted by James Steel to Henry Funk, dated December 24, 1719, that Christian Moyer then already owned the land now belonging to Joseph L. Moyer. He was the father-in-law of Henry Funk, and it is not only probable, but certain that they both purchased their lands about the same time. There was, however, one Christian Moyer who came to Pennsylvania in company with Valentine Kratz, Andrew Schwartz, Abraham Schwartz, and others, who arrived in Philadelphia in the ship Friendship, October 16, 1727, but he might have been a grandson, because Christian Moyer was not a young man when he settled here in Salford. His name appears in the list of taxables of this township in 1734, when he was rated on 100 acres, and his son, Samuel, on fifty acres, for his name is also in the tax list of that year. From whom Christian Moyer had purchased this land, or whether he had obtained it by virtue of a warrant I can not say, but probably by the latter way, and then he obtained a patent therefor from the Hon. John Penn, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, dated September 6, 1734. His tract of land was 240 perches in length and 100 perches wide. It extended from near the North Wales road north-east along the present Souderton turnpike, back to the line of Franconia township, and then along the said line north-west 100 perches, bounded on that side by land at first owned by James Steel, of the city of Philadelphia. On the north-west it was bounded by land belonging to Dirk Johnson, of Germantown; on the south-east by Hans Meyer's land, and on the south-west by land then belonging to John

Isaac Klein. This farm according to the metes and measures given contained 150 acres with no allowance for roads and highways as the general custom was to give. As already stated, he was rated for 100 acres in 1734, for at an early day they had cut off fifty acres for his son, Samuel, whose residence was where Joseph L. Moyer now lives. Those fifty acres for which he was rated in 1734, were undoubtedly to be paid for by annual installments as the custom then was, and then he received his deed for it, by lease and release, as the conveyances were then given, dated November 19 and 20, 1741. Christian Moyer had more than one son, but how many, what their names were, and where they lived, I will leave for some one else to investigate; but will tell you that on the 28th and 29th of December 1748, he conveyed his farm containing 100 acres to his grandson, Christian Moyer. It appears that his wife, Barbara, was dead at that time, and he as you will see, must have been an elderly man. The greater part of said farm now belongs to Joseph Drissel. The land on the Franconia side, from the present toll-gate over to the farther side of Samuel Bergey's farm, 146 acres, was purchased from James Steel by Samuel Moyer in 1719, and was owned by him until June 1, 1751, when he and his wife, Barbara, conveyed the same, 146 acres, to George Delp, of Lower Salford. Seeing that these lands around here were owned and occupied so early we need not wonder that there was burying ground here. Here the old Moyers are buried, besides some of the later generations. On the north-east side of the farm and was owned by one Christian Moyer about the time this plantation was sold to George Delp. He was probably the deacon in the Mennonite church, whom Henry Funk has mentioned,

because he lived in Franconia. It is possible that there might have been two Samuel Moyers here living next neighbors to each others, but it is not probable since in both cases the name of the wife was Barbara.

Samuel Moyer made his last will and testament in writing dated August 20, 1764, and therein appointed his wife, Barbara, sole executrix, and devised all his estate and farm containing yet fifty acres of land with buildings and improvements to her. And shortly after making his will the testator died leaving no issue, and so his widow owned the farm. This Christian Moyer, of the third generation, of whom we have spoken, was rated for 232 acres of land in 1776. He then had five horses and seven cows on his whole tract, while at the present time there are more than three times that many horses and five times that number of cows supported on the same land. But we will now see whether we can prove that he owned 232 acres. Well, living where Drissel lives, he had 100 acres. Then on October 9, 1765, he purchased of David Stribe and wife, Susanna, who then owned the hotel in Harleysville, with 105 acres of land belonging to it, as already related in the history of that village—fifty acres and sixty-six perches. This tract now belongs to Henry Overholtzer. Christian Moyer was then increasing his acres, and next he purchased from the widow of Samuel Moyer those fifty acres with buildings and improvements, where Joseph L. Moyer now lives, May 27, 1767. He then had 200 acres and sixty-six perches. A few years later May 23, 1770, he purchased from Nicholas Schwenk and wife, Barbara, thirty-two acres and sixty-seven perches. This raised his number of acres to 232 and 132 perches. This last tract, or the greater part

thereof, now belongs to John H. Moyer, a descendant of the family. Christian Moyer died intestate about the year 1783, leaving a widow, named Susanna, and twelve children, named Jacob, Christian, Mary, Magdalene, Samuel, Abraham, John, Sarah, Elizabeth, Susanna, Hannah and Catharine. Only the first four of them were of lawful age at that time. Mary was married to Joseph Alderfer, of Lower Salford, and Magdalene to Jacob Moyer, of Springfield township, Bucks county. This was now the fourth generation of Moyers at this place. It does not appear by the conveyances that letters of administration were taken out, for there are no administrators mentioned, but it appears to the contrary that they settled the estate among themselves by releasing each other; for those who received the land paid out by installments the shares of those who were under age when they became of age, and then received their releases. That way of settling estates would not be safe in our day unless the shares of all the minors were well secured by mortgage on the real estate. His estate by the time each child had his share amounted to £1365, or $3640. John became of age in 1792, Elizabeth in 1796, and Susanna in 1798, and each one received £105.

On May 29, 1784, Jacob Moyer and his wife, Mary, Joseph Alderfer and his wife, Mary, Jacob Moyer of Springfield township, Bucks county, and his wife, Magdalene, conveyed to their brother, Christian Moyer, 100 acres of land with buildings and improvements. It was that message and part of the land now belonging to Joseph L. Moyer. On the same day, May 29, 1784, all the heirs and widow granted to Jacob, the oldest son, a messuage and 132 acres and 147 perches; fifty acres thereof being part of the first 150 acres.

He being the oldest son, received two shares as the custom then was. It appears that Christian Moyer of the fourth generation, was not contented on his farm of 100 acres where J. L. Moyer now lives. His wife had probably come from Bucks county. At any rate, they removed to Richland township, of said county, and on the 30th of November, 1789, after owning the farm only five years, he and his wife, Mary, conveyed it to his brother, Jacob. It will thus be seen that some of the Moyer families in Bucks county are distantly connected with the Moyers of Lower Salford. It will also be seen that the whole plantation containing 232 acres was again all in the hands of one man, Jacob Moyer, and remained so sixteen years Along the whole length of the north-west side of the first 150 acres the land at first belonged to Dirk Johnson, of Germantown, and after him to his son, Richard Johnson, who afterward bequeathed it to his sister, Catharine Wister, and she afterward to her two daughters, Catharine Greenleaf and Rebekeh Morris, as related in a former sketch.

There is also a conveyance on hand showing that Jacob Moyer purchased of Samuel Morris and his wife, Rebecca, and Catharine Greenleaf, widow, thirty-one acres and forty-nine perches, August 2, 1790, when quite a number of tracts were sold and conveyances were granted on that day by the said party. A large part of this tract was conveyed to Daniel Price some years later. On the 30th of November, 1805, Jacob Moyer and his wife, Mary, conveyed to their son, Christian, a messuage and ninety acres of land for £1350. It was the greater part of the 100-acre farm, and is now owned by his son, Joseph L. Moyer. Christian Moyer then purchased yet sixty-three acres of land from the administrators of the estate

of Abraham Detweiler, deceased, of Franconia township, at $39.55 per acre, November 4, 1833, and a conveyance was granted on the 3rd of April, following. This land is adjacent on the north-west side and still belongs to Joseph L. Moyer, of the sixth generation. Jacob Moyer had seven children, named Jacob, Joseph, Susanna, Christian, Mary, Abraham and Sarah. These were now of the fifth generation. Jacob Moyer, of the fourth generation, made his last will and testament in writing dated July 11, 1809, and therein devised all his real estate which he then had remaining, containing about 166 acres, to his two sons, Jacob and Joseph, subject to certain privileges and performances regarding his widow, Mary. Jacob was to receive the old homestead and ninety-three acres and forty perches of land, and Joseph received the remainder, which was about seventy-three acres. Jacob was married to Sarah Detweiler, and Joseph to Elizabeth Detweiler; Susanna was married to Henry Kulp; Christian was married to Mary Landes; Mary was married to Valentine Kratz; Abraham was married to Barbara Landes, and Sarah to Jacob Landes. Jacob Moyer's will was proven February 3, 1813, and he probably died in the preceding January. What his age was we can not say since he has no grave stones.

On the 23d of August, 1813, the aforesaid heirs of Jacob Moyer with their wives and husbands confirmed and released those two farms, containing respectively ninety-three acres and forty perches, and seventy-three acres, to their two brothers, Jacob and Joseph. The latter lived to be an old man, and also built the residence where John H. Moyer now lives, and died there. He sold his farm to his son William, of the sixth generation, who, after owning it a number

of years, sold the same to Henry Overholtzer, the present owner, while he himself still lives at the corner. Joseph Moyer was twice married; he had three son and two daughters by his first wife, and one daughter by the second. The first house and barn on this farm were probably built by Mr. Moyer, about the year 1812, but on April 30, 1875, both house and barn with all their contents were burnt away. The buildings were rebuilt by Mr Overholtzer that same year at considerable expense. The barn again burnt away with all its contents, on Sunday, February 20, 1887, and has again been rebuilt by Mr. Overholtzer. Jacob Moyer then owned the old homestead twenty-eight years and died there in 1841. His sons were Abraham D., Jacob D., Joseph D., Daniel D. and Benjamin D. His daughters were Mary, wife of John Kolb, late of Manheim, Lancaster county; Sarah, wife of George Hagey, and Elizabeth, first wife of Abraham H. Price. This was now the sixth generation. In early life Jacob Moyer embraced the Funkite faith, but when John Herr came along preaching his exclusive doctrine, he turned in to him and remained a strict Herrite the remainder of his life. His son, Joseph, was a doctor; he also was the editor and manager of the *Olive Branch*, a temperance and anti-slavery paper, published in Norristown, but retire l in 1855 after holding the management only two years. His sons, Daniel and Benjamin D. Moyer, still living, reside in Lancaster county. His son, Abraham D., owned the farm after the death of his father about twenty-two years, but he died also, and after his death, his son, Ezekiah H., and his brother, Jacob D., took out letters of administration and sold the farm at public sale to James Price, of Harleysville, and granted a conveyance to

him, dated April 7, 1864, for a messuage and seventy-two acres and forty-seven perches of land. Afterward James Price purchased yet fourteen acres and 128 perches of land from Henry A. Price and wife, April 10, 1865. It was a part or all of that tract which his father, Daniel Price, had purchased from Jacob Moyer, of the fourth generation, about the beginning of this century. After owning this farm about seventeen years James Price and wife sold and conveyed the same to Joseph Drissel, the present owner, in 1881, and then removed to Brown county, Kansas.

Christian Moyer, of the fifth generation, had nine children, namely, six sons and three daughters, whose names were Jacob, John, Daniel, Christian, Joseph L., Abraham L., Mary, Susanna, and Ann, wife of Abraham Lapp.

The farm belonging to Joseph L. Moyer still contains 123 acres, if I mistake not, and the farm belonging to his son-in-law Jacob Landes, thirty-seven acres. The brick house on the latter farm was built by Christian Moyer nearly fifty years ago. The house belonging to Mary Landis was built by Jacob Price, about forty years ago.

In the "History of Harleysville" we told our readers a good deal about the farm on the south-east side of the Souderton turnpike, which at first belonged to Hans Meyer, and therefore we will not go over the same ground again. Whether this Hans Meyer was a brother to Christian, or a son of the latter, or what relation they bore to each other, I cannot say. His farm at first apparently contained 200 acres, being 240 perches long and extending back to the Franconia line, and 134 perches wide. Fifty-four acres thereof were cut off and added to the Binder farm by Henry Myer, in 1745; and 150 acres with buildings and improvements were purchased by George Delp

Christian Moyer lived in Franconia when he made his will which is dated January 18, 1748. He undoubtedly lived with his son Christian, and he says that he is "old and infirm." He gave £3 to his son Christian Moyer — £3 to his son Jacob Moyer — £3 to his son Samuel Moyer — £3 to his daughter Elizabeth Oblinger wife of Nicholas Oblinger — £3 to his grand daughter Esther Funk, and £12 to the Mennonite meeting in Salford and Franconia townships — after this to my three children, Francis, the said Christian Moyer, Angel Funk wife of Henry Funk, and Barbara Reiff wife of Abraham Reiff (See page 421 and 423) It appears that after the first mentioned bequests they were to make equal shares of the remainder. He asks his son Christian to provide a home for his son Jacob who appears to have been incompetent. He appointed his eldest son Christian Moyer and his loving son in law Henry Funk to be the executors of his will. The witnesses were Jacob Funk, John Fry and George Bachtell.

Probated June 6, 1751, by Fry and Bachtel. Book I, page 407.
Records in Philadelphia.

Hans Myer of Salford township made his will June 12, 1737, and gave to his wife Cattrin all his estate, both real and personal "until I my younger child arrives at the age of 15 years." The wife was to bring up the children, and afterward to the third of the estate. Six children were named John George Myers, Henry Myer, Hans Jacob Myer, Ludwich Myer, Magdalene Myer, and Margaret Myer. His wife Cattrin and son John George Myer were the executors. The witnesses were Lawrence Shoulz, William Nash and Jan Jansen. The will was probated Aug 21, 1737. Book F, page 48. Philada.

Samuel Moyer of Lower Salford made his will, dated August 20, 1764 — he said he was blind and had no children or bodily heirs living. He bequeathed some of his estate by consent of his wife as a free gift to his brother Christian Moyer and to his sister Elizabeth Oblinger, and to his cousin ~~Christian~~ Christian Moyer for to each two pounds in lawful money. He devised his plantation containing 50 acres to his loving wife Barbara Moyer and appointed her his sole executrix. See page 323. The witnesses were Jacob Landes, Nicholas Hardeman and Andrew Geiger. The will was probated December 9, 1766. It was written in German and was translated by Abraham Heidrick, and approved as being a correct translation January 26, 1767. See book N, page 333. The will is recorded twice on record — See also book C, page 37. Philada.

Jacob Kraeff, page 339 was born Sept. 3, 1712. His wife Mary Oblinger b. May 29, 1711, married in 1739.

Samuel Moyer of Franconia made his will, dated February 8, 1763. He had only two children, Barbara, wife of George Deih, and his deceased daughter Anna Bantes who left two daughters, namely, Barbara married to Michael Biegler of Coilhodpen and Anna Bantes. — No wife mentioned in the will. George Deih was the executor. His grand son Samuel Deih received his gun.

The witnesses to the will were Christian Funk and Abraham Heidrick. Probated September 3, 1763. See book N. Page 17. Office in Philadelphia.

Francis W. Beckler.

for his son, Isaac, as related in the "History of Harleysville." It is said George Delp built the first house on that part of the farm which now belongs to Henry Musselman, for his one son-in-law, whose name was Roesh, and that he then lived there some years and had no issue; but this appears rather doubtful, because the whole farm containing 150 acres was bequeathed to his son, Isaac Delp, and no mention is made in the will about the said son-in-law.

Since writing the former we have been informed by relatives that Roesh lived and died there without issue, and his widow, Elizabeth, afterward lived and died at Abraham Delp's.

ANDREW SCHWARTZ.

We next come around to the farm of Enos Wambold, which is also partly in Lower Salford. In the tax list of Salford, in 1734, we find the name of Andrew Schwartz, who came to Pennsylvania in company with Valentine Kratz, Christian Moyer, Illes Cassel, Johannes Kassel, Abraham Schwartz and others, in the ship, Friendship, and arrived at Philadelphia October 16, 1727. We next find him purchasing a tract of land containing 155 acres located mostly in Franconia township, though it was all in Salford at the time of their purchase, November 13, 1729. This land was purchased from James Steel and wife, Martha, of the city of Philadelphia, and the boundaries are thus given: "beginning at a corner of Claus Upleger's land, thence north-west 181 perches to a corner of Samuel Meyer's land; thence by the same north-east 140 perches to another corner; thence south-east by land of John Julian Stump 181 perches to a corner; then south-west by land of Claus Upleger 140 perches to the place of beginning." The one corner of Samuel Moyer's land was up at the toll-gate, but the corner

here referred to must have been just above the residence of Benjamin Frederick, or in a right line with the middle of the turnpike, across from Jacob Young's. And this line was the boundary of the farm which Moyer afterward sold to George Delp in 1751. The Stump farm now belongs to Jacob L. Moyer, but it then extended over to the road on this side. Then we have Claus Upleger, or Uplinger, on the south-east side, and the next year, in 1730, we find Upleger on the Schwartz farm, and Schwartz below on the Upleger farm.

But then we find that Upleger's tract, instead of containing 155 acres as it did the previous year, when Schwartz owned it, now, in 1730, contained 182 acres and 120 perches. It thus appears that they must have exchanged lands, and in doing so Upleger reserved twenty-seven acres and 120 perches of his tract, or else he owned only that much land at first and bought the farm above of Schwartz to it, but this does not appear probable. The line between Abraham F. Kratz and Enos Wambold at that time was a straight line all the way over to the other road at John Moyer's, which was then a corner of Stump's land. It is probable that two houses were built simultaneously at first, one where Enos Wambold lives, and the other on the other side of the line near a spring now belonging to Abraham F. Kratz, where the first house stood. It appears also that Schwartz then must have built a residence either where John Nice now lives or where John Schwartz lives, and a few years later he bought yet some land from Casper Wister and wife, down at the lower end of John Schwartz's farm. In giving the boundaries of the Binder farm, in Harleysville, we gave the recital thus: "beginning at a post in a line of Hans Meyer's land, thence extending south-

east by Claus Oblicker's land ninety perches to a post; then by vacant land, and land of Conrad Custer, south-west 130 perches," showing that these things corroborate. Besides that, Nicholas Uplinger, Jr., owned the Binder farm from 1745 to 1751. But Claus Upleger did not live long on that farm, for in August, 1730, he made his will, and apparently died soon afterward. He ordered in his will that the farm should not be sold until nine years after the date of the will, when the youngest child, which was then six years old, would be fifteen. The name of the oldest son was Nicholas, and the name of his wife was Elizabeth. Another son was named Christian; Catharine Upleger was married to Henry Hefflefinger, and Mary to Jacob Krob, or Krupp, but Anna, the youngest daughter, was still single when the farm was sold by the executors, Henry Funk, Christian Allebach and Conrad Reiff, in 1739. But by that time the widow, whose name was Catharine, had married a man by name of Hefflefinger.

The following is a copy of Claus Upleger's will. It is only short:

"I, the hereunder written, acknowledge before witnesses on the hereunder written day of the date hereof, that this is my last will or testament, that after my departure or decease all and singular my goods what may be found with the lands and cattles; to wit: all what is there shall thus be ordered and parted. Firstly, all debts shall be paid, and then of the residue my wife shall have the third part, or one third of all what is left, and the remainder thereof shall be parted among my five children that are yet in being, in this manner and form that one shall have so much as the other or divide the same equally, but not before my youngest child is fifteen years old, which is now six years old. Further it is my will, counsel and desire that Henry Ffunk, Christian Allebach and Conrad Reif shall be Guardians or Executors over my wife, children and all the goods which I left behind, and it is my prayer and desire that they shall take so much care of the same as possible they can. And if they find it good and beneficial to sell my plantation if my wife and children cannot manage the same till the time that they should divide. Dated the third day of August, 1730."

his
Claus ox Oblieger.
mark

His witnesses were Jacob Ffunk, Martin Hauser, Samuel Meier and Christian Stauffer.

Those three executors already named sold the farm located mostly in Farnconia township, in two tracts; the main farm being 176 acres, and the other, a lot of six acres and 120 perches, both to George Stump, of Franconia, and all the sons and daughters, heirs and legatees of the aforementioned will, signed the release and grant of the said two tracts of land with the appurtenances belonging thereto, under date of December 6, 1739. The lot of six acres mentioned here undoubtedly was the old log house and six acres and 120 perches of land where Abraham F. Kratz lives. Mr. Stump then owned this property a little over five years, when he sold the same plantation and lot to Rudolph Harley, June 5, 1744. The latter owned this farm forty years and in the mean time added additional tracts thereto until he owned at least 244 acres. By virtue of a warrant granted to Nicholas Uplinger or Upleger, dated August 31, 1734, there was surveyed to him on the 4th of March, 1735, thirty-four and a half acres of land in Lower Salford, and on the following 4th of October a patent was granted to him by the Hon. John Penn, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn for the same. This land now in part belonging to Abraham F. Kratz, is located on the north-east side of the road between him and Lutz, extending a considerable distance down along the new road recently opened. The bounds and distances were then given as follows: Beginning at a post in a line of Casper Wister's land; then by the same north-east twenty-six and a half perches to a post; then north-west by land of Andrew Schwartz and the said Uplinger 222 perches to a post; then south-west by the said Uplinger's land twenty-six and a half perches to a post; then by land

of Conrad Gehr south-east 222 perches to the place of beginning, containing thirty-four and a half acres. This Conrad Gehr, in all probability, was Conrad Custer, who about that time still owned part of the Krupp farm which also included the Lutz farm. It appears this Uplinger's tract with other lands was some years later also purchased by Rudolph Harley. It also appears that Andrew Schwartz at that time owned the farm now belonging to John Swartz.

Sometime after purchasing the farm on the Indian Creek Rudolph Harley and his wife, Mary, conveyed the main farm, then containing 170 acres and 128 perches of land, to their son, Henry Harley, May 3, 1784. And the other farm, part of which now belongs to Abraham F. Kratz, then containing sixty-three acres and 123 perches with a disconnected tract of ten acres of woodland, making in all seventy-three acres and 123 perches, he and his wife conveyed to their son, Samuel Harley, at the same time, May 3, 1784. Henry Harley owned this farm sixteen years, and in the meantime purchased yet three acres and ninty-five perches from George Markley and wife, Elizabeth, who then lived where Frank Nice now lives, and received a conveyance dated December 19, 1794.

On March 31, A. D., 1800, Henry Harley and his wife, Elizabeth, conveyed their farm in two tracts, then containing only yet 140 acres and 114 perches, to Isaac Klein, of Lower Salford. He owned this farm many years, and then divided it among his three sons, Gabriel, Samuel and John. These three brothers owned those farms until each one died on his farm twenty or more years ago. John Klein owned the farm now belonging to Enos Wambold and after his death it was owned by his son, Jacob,

who sold it to his son-in-law, the present owner. Since the year 1800, when this land was purchased by Isaac Klein, this tract which was then yet partly in timber, has been divided and subdivided into such small tracts or pieces as I will not describe.

The graveyard, known as Harley's buryingground, located on this tract, was reserved in the conveyance when the farm was sold by Henry Harley to Isaac Klein, and was not sold.

At some time during those sixteen years in which Henry Harley owned this property he sold off about forty-two acres of land at the upper end to George Weidner, if I mistake not, whose residence for some time afterward was where Benjamin Frederick now lives. Weidner afterward purchased yet a wedge-shaped tract of land containing about fifteen acres from Abraham Delp, lying between his other tract and the road above. But as this farm is in Franconia township we will not persue its history any further.

PETER BECKER.

It was while Rudolph Harley lived on this farm that his father-in-law, Peter Becker, who was then well advanced in years came to reside with them the remainder of his days and lived here yet twelve years. The following sketch of his life was written by Abraham H. Cassel and was published in "The Brethren's Almanac," of 1871:

"Peter Becker, the first minister of the Brethren in America, was born at Dilisheim, in Germany, in the year 1687. He was brought up and educated in the Presbyterian faith, but embraced the principles of the Brethren at Creyfeldt in 1714, immigrated to America at the head of the first company of Brethren that crossed the ocean, in 1719, and settled near Germantown on his little farm of twenty-four acres, which he tilled with his own hands, and

followed his occupation (weaving) besides, until October 14, 1746, when lonesomeness and the infirmities of age prevailed on him to retire. He made vendue, and sold both his real and personal property, and moved to his son-in-law, Rudolph Harley, (the writer's great-grandfather) at Indian Creek, Montgomery county, where he lived until the day of his death, which occurred on the 19th of March, 1758. He is buried in the family burying ground, about one mile and a half from Indian Creek. He was married to Dorathy Partman, a very pious and worthy woman, with whom he had two daughters only, Mary and Elizabeth. The former married the above named, Rudolph Harley, and the latter married Peter Stump, who raised fifteen children.

"He appears to have been a man of ardent feelings and considerable talent, accompanied with great zeal in the service of his master, in so much that he was the happy instrument in organizing most all the early churches of the Brethren in America.

"Much more might be said of him; but whatever his real characted was, this may confidently be asserted, that he traveled more, and labored more abundantly in the cause of the church than all his contemporaries."

By referring to the sketch of Rudolph Harley it will be seen that he did not live at Indian Creek before 1762, and Peter Becker was dead before that time, having died in 1758, did not live at Indian Creek. He is buried in the Harley graveyard, in Franconia, and had quite a common rough stone with the name and date on it at his grave until 1886, one hundred and twenty-eight years after his death, when his great-grandson, Abraham H. Cassel, erected to his memory, at his own expense, a large, white

marble-headstone with a lengthly historical epitaph thereon.

We will now proceed with the history of the farm belonging to Abraham F. Kratz, which as already stated was sold by Rudolph Harley and wife to their son, Samuel, May 3, 1784 There was a house built here at an early day, but how early I can not say. It did not stand where it now is; but the first house stood back near a spring not far from the creek. This farm, when it was purchased by Samuel Harley, contained sixty-three acres and 123 perches, besides a ten-acre tract apparently disconnected. It is said Mr. Harley tried to run a store along with his farm at this place, but he found it was not a proper place for a store, and therefore purchased the hotel property in Harleysville, in 1795, and there kept a store, alongside of the tavern, in the same building. Nearly five years later, December 31, 1799, Samuel Harley and wife, Catharine, sold the same farm to Abraham Ziegler, who owned it six years, but in the meantime reduced it to thirty-five acres, when he and his wife, Barbara, conveyed this property to Abraham Markley, for £754, April 26, 1806. At that time a draft was made showing that the land extended in a long narrow strip 29.9 perches wide and 225 perches in length along the present road. The line on the north-west side along Isaac Klein's land was irregular and of a zigzag shape 43 perches in length. All along the line on the north-east side below the crossroad the land then belonged to Andrew Swartz. At the lower end bordering on Andrew Krieble's land, a small tract nearly square containing five acres and thirty perches had been cut off from its original length by Mr. Ziegler, apparently for his own use. Its whole length along the road up to the corner of Isaac Klein's land then was 253.6 perches,

and the landowners on that side were Andrew Krupp, John Krupp and George Heydrick. Abraham Markley owned this farm only a little over a year, when he and his wife, Elizabeth, conveyed the same property to Jacob Hagey, clockmaker, June 11, 1807. He owned the farm only three years when he and his wife, Elizabeth, sold and confirmed the same to John Krupp, of Lower Salford, May 8, 1810. Before this date John Krupp had been living where John Wile now lives, and at the same time he and his wife sold that farm then containing sixty-four acres to Jacob Hagey. It will thus be seen that Krupp and Hagey exchanged farms. But Krupp did not remain on the Kratz farm a long time, for he owned it only two years and in the meantime drifted down to Towamencin where his father, Jacob Krupp, was then living. On April 1, 1812, he and his wife, Hannah, conveyed the same messuage and thirty-five acres of land to Andrew Beyer, of Lower Salford, for £850. Here now is a link wanting in the chain in the loss of his conveyance so that we can not say how long Mr. Beyer owned this farm, but it was not long until it was owned by Andrew Swartz, an old man, and his wife, *nee* Fry, who both lived and died there in the old house back near the spring. After the death of Andrew Swartz, the farm belonged to his son, Abraham Swartz, who died there in 1832, and his widow and seven children kept house together until her oldest son, John, was of lawful age, when he and the guardians of six minor children, sent in their petition to the Orphans' Court of Montgomery county for an appraisement of the property, and afterward the said John Swartz, eldest son of Abraham Swartz, deceased, took the farm at the appraisement, and had the said court to confirm it unto him in 1837.

He then owned this farm sixteen years and in that while had a brick-kiln on his land where bricks were manufactured as some old people will recollect. But on March 30, 1853, John Swartz and his wife, Susanna, sold the said farm then containing yet thirty-four acres to Samuel Musselman, for $2589.46. He owned it only about a year and a half, until he and his wife conveyed the same property to Abraham F. Kratz, the present owner, October 13, 1854.

THE KRUPP FARM.

The old conveyances belonging to the Krupp farm are kept carefully locked up in an old chest, and the old lady is very scrupulous about letting other people see them. She is very willing to give the whole history of the farm verbally from hearsay, but to let any one see the old papers is a thing she does not trust. Her maiden name was Mayberry, and her education could all be put in a nutshell. There was much trouble a few years ago, after the death of her husband, Samuel Krupp, when she had purchased the farm, in getting her so far as to loan even the last conveyance, to have the property conveyed to herself, and to me when I wanted to see the old papers, she related the history (?) of the farm, verbally, rather than let me see the manuscripts. Lacking reliable statistics we will, nevertheless, attempt to give an indefinite history of the place from information obtained from other sources. We can say so much that in 1728 this tract of land belonged to Conrad Custer, of Skippack, then called Bebber's township, when there probably was no house on it, but how long before that time he owned it I cannot say, nor can I say in what year he sold it. But we can say that in 1732 it belonged to Christian Croll, and he also lived there in 1734, when he was rated on fifty acres

of land at that place. He was probably the ancestor of all the Crolls in this part of the country and elsewhere. He was probably the same Christian Croll who came to Pennsylvania in company with Jacob Reiff, who returned from a visit to Europe, August 19, 1729. Croll probably owned this farm about ten years when he sold it to Jacob Krob or Krupp. From 1760 to 1765 Christian Croll owned that farm and lived where Frederick Seitz now lives, as stated in the sketch of John Lederach. He could not write his name. Since we do not have the date of Jacob Krob's purchase we cannot say exactly how long this farm has belonged to the Krupp family, but we know that it has been in that name at least one hundred and forty-four years; but it can not remain in that family many years longer.

The name Krupp has been written so differently in times past that we hardly know how to write it. Among the ancestors of the family who came to Pennsylvania, in company with Alexander Mack, in the ship, Allen, August 19, 1729, were Andreas Kropp, Daniel Cropp, Jacob Cropp, Johan Christian Crobf and Christian Kropf. Then we also have Grob and Grub. Catharine Grob kept herself secluded in Germany in the time of persecution. Jacob Krob could not write his name, but other people wrote it Krob, while his descendants wrote their names Krupp. Jacob Krob was supervisor in Lower Salford in 1767 and 1768. The first year his expense were £13. 13 shillings. Think of a supervisor who can not write even so much as his own name.

Concerning the farm we are sorry to say that we can not give the exact dimensions, but apparently its two sides were each 225 perches in length, and the two other side 130 perches each, and must have contained at first about 183 acres. This

whole tract at one time belonged to Conrad Custer, but it appears as if he might have sold it in two or three tracts at so many different dates. Apparently it all belonged to Jacob Krob at some time and included the farms belonging to John Wile, Ephraim Smith, John Lutz ,the widow Krupp, part of Isaac Nice's farm, and other lots along the new road back from Ephraim Smith's farm. On the last mentioned farm is at present the office of the WEEKLY NEWS. It is not customary to publish a paper at such an out-of-the way place, but here it can be done cheaper than in a village or borough, though the printing establishment may at some time in the future be moved to Harleysville,

Jacob Krob undoubtedly was a son of Andrew Kropp, for he also had a son whose name was Andrew, who, after him, became the owner of the old home. Jacob Krob, as stated in a previous sketch, was married to Mary, daughter of Claus Uplinger. They had four sons whom I know of, but how many daughters I can not say. He made his last will and testament in writing, dated February 25, 1785, and died soon afterward, but his wife, Mary, survived him until 1802. We are officially informed that his will is not on record, and consequently we can not tell our readers much about it. His four sons, whose names appear elsewhere, were Jacob, Isaac, Samuel and Andrew. Apparently he sold about forty-three acres of his land in the eastern corner to his son, Jacob, and had remaining at the time of his death, in 1785, 140½ acres which he devised in equal shares with buildings and improvements to his two sons, Andrew and Samuel. They afterward divided the land into two tracts of such size as they agreed to. Andrew received the old homestead, and Samuel

the other tract; he probably built the first house on the farm now belonging to John Wile. Samuel Krupp died intestate and without issue, in 1799. Some time after his death lawful proceedings were taken, and on application to the Orphans' court of Montgomery county, an inquest was awarded, and an appraisement was made, when, some time afterward, Jacob Krupp, the oldest brother, came into court and prayed to take the farm at the appraisement, which was granted. Then he and his brother, Andrew, mutually agreed amicably to divide the farm between themselves. Jacob Krupp and his brother, Isaac, both lived in eastern Towamencin. Jacob was the father of John Krupp, the celebrated Mennonite minister, and of Abraham, the musician, of flying machine notority. His experiment in flying was made when he lived with his brother-in-law, Jacob Harley, near the Presbyterian church, below Fair View, four miles above Norristown. They then made the division of the land so that Jacob had eighty-seven acres and eighty perches. How much land then belonged to Andrew I can not say, for that is locked up in the chest, but I can say so much that it was all that tract which now belongs to the widow Krupp, and Lutz's farm, and the greater part of the small farm belonging to Isaac Nice. It is said Andrew Krupp built that house on Lutz's farm, and his son-in-law, Frederick Sholl, lived there. He also built that house in which the widow Krupp lives. The house belonging to Isaac Nice was probably built by Isaac Klein, who had a blacksmith shop there in 1832, when the cross-road along there was laid out. Some years later this property belonged to Henry Harley and not to William as stated in the sketch of the Harleys, for William Harley then lived on the Lutz farm and

his wife, Mary, died there in 1843. Frederick Sholl owned that farm before it belonged to Harley. I think Lutz bought it from Harley.

When the farm was divided between Jacob and Andrew Krupp, the former was a resident of Towamencin, and he then had his son, John Krupp, to move on the farm, and sold it to him one year afterward. It appears that the meadows were well provided with ditches for irrigation, and when they divided the farm Andrew Krupp granted a water right to his brother, Jacob, or the privilege of taking the water over Jacob's meadow from the same ditches which were in Andrew's meadow, on each side of the stream, and also the right to clean the ditches and keep them in repair, to him, his heirs and assigns for ever. The clause reads thus: "Together also with the privilege of the said Jacob Krupp, his heirs and assigns taking the waters out of their natural courses, which runs down through the land of the said Andrew Krupp, by the same ditches or water courses on each side of the meadow as they were heretofore made for the use of the meadows, and have the benefit thereof at all times for ever, with privilege of repairing, scouring and cleansing the ditches as need may require, so that it be done at such times and seasons as will least injure the grass growing there." This right was granted when the conveyance was made, before Benjamin Reiff, Esq., April 4, 1803. Such water-rights we occasionally find along small streams. They were considered of much value in those days when people did not know that grass could be cultivated in the fields. Andrew Krupp was married to Elizabeth Swartz: they had three children, Abraham and Samuel, and a daughter, Catharine, who was married to Frederick Sholl. Andrew Krupp died December 31, 1817,

aged fifty-eight years, six months and eight days. But his widow survived him yet nearly twenty-six years. She and her children then run the farm until her children were all married, and then Samuel became the owner thereof. Elizabeth Krupp, *nee* Swartz, died October 20, 1843, aged seventy years, four months and six days. Their son, the late Samuel Krupp, then owned the farm until the time of his death, April 13, 1883, when he died in his 83d year. His children then sold the farm which was purchased by his widow, as already stated. We will now turn back again to the Wile farm, which Jacob Krupp and his wife, Ann, sold and conveyed to their son, John, for £1000, with all the rights and privileges belonging thereto, February 22, 1804. He then owned this farm six years when he and his wife, Hannah, sold sixty-four acres thereof to Jacob Hagey, for £1100, May 8, 1810, when they exchanged farms, as already stated in the previous sketch, and had remaining yet twenty-three and a half acres of woodland. But on September 25, 1811, John Krupp and wife sold yet four acres of woodland to Jacob Hagey, for £100, or $266.66. Jacob Hagey was a clockmaker by trade, and was generally known as "Clockmaker Hagey." He owned this property eighteen years, and then he and his wife, Elizabeth, sold this farm of sixty-eight acres, in two tracts, to Benjamin Weil, March 21,1828, for $2030. After owning this farm forty-eight years Benjamin Weil sold sixty-seven acres and seventy-two perches thereof to his son, John Wile, the present owner, August 31, 1876. The latter built a new brick house there in 1877.

Those five convenient farms belonging to Abraham Nice, Jacob Stoll, Frank Heckler, (formerly Adam Fisher,) Joseph M. Cassel and Henry Wile,

were all cut out of one large plantation, originally comprising 207 acres, which was purchased from David Powel in 1727. It has repeatedly been stated, in these sketches, that on the 10th day of September 1717, a warrant was granted to David Powel for 3000 acres of land, and then in pursuance and by virtue of said warrant there was surveyed, by Jacob Taylor, on the 7th day of September 1727, for Claus Janson of Bebber's township, a tract of land, beginning at a corner of Conrad Custer's land in a lines of Joseph Jones' land; thence by the same south-west 184 perches to a corner of Gabriel Shuler's land; then by the same north-west 180 perches to a corner in a line of John Isaac Klein's land; then by the same and Christian Stauffer's land north-east 184 perches to a corner in a line of Conrad Custer's land; then south-east by the same to the place of beginning; containing 207 acres. This survey, certified by Jacob Taylor, was returned into the Secretary's office in Philadelphia, May 15, 1729. Claus Janson then owned this land nearly five years, when he and his wife, Catharine, for a small sum of money and the good will and love which they bore to their eldest son, John, conveyed and confirmed it to him on the 10th day of June 1732. At that time Christian Croll owned the Krupp farm. The deed which was granted by Claus Janson and wife to their son, John, was acknowledged before Henry Pastorius and two witnesses, Hendrick Van Gelex and William Lane, and was recorded in the office in Philadelphis, October 14, 1746. Claus Janson, now Johnson, was one of those early Mennonite settlers who came to Skippack and purchased 306 acres from Mathias Van Bebber, about the year 1703. He was tax collector for the township in 1718, and in 1725 he was elected one of

the first trustees of the Mennonite meeting house and land. He had twelve children, four sons and eight daughters. We are indebted to the kindness of Mr. Henry S. Dotterer, of Philadelphia, for obtaining for us the following statistics of Claus Janson's will, which was dated June 1, 1739, and was proven before Jacob Reiff, of Lower Salford, deputy register, October 30, 1745. His witnesses were Robert Jones, Anna Jones and William Jones. He is represented as a resident "of the township Skippack and Parkeomy," yeoman, being aged and infirm in body. At the time he made his will three of his sons were yet under age; their names were Peter, Nicholas and Benjamin. The names of his eight daughters were, the oldest, Kuechin, 2d Mary, 3d Agnes, 4th Catharine, 5th Elizabeth, 6th Catharine, 7th Margaret, 8th Hannah. It is somewhat singular that two daughters should have the same name, Catharine, but it is so. In the will the name is written Johnson. His wife, Catharine, and his son, Peter, were the executors. His wife was to have "ye Book called the Book of Martyrs." His oldest son, John Johnson, was to have one shilling sterling (in lieu of all other legacies,) for he already had the large farm over here at a very low figure. His son, Peter Johnson, was to have a farm of 153 acres when he became of age, being part of 306 acres which had been bought from Mathias Van Bebber. His son, Nicholas Johnson, was to have fifty-nine acres, being the northeast part of a tract of 118 acres, when he became of age. His son, Benjamin Johnson, was to have fifty-nine acres, being the other half, or south-western part, of a tract of 118 acres, when he became of age. He appointed his two "loving relatives," John Conrad and Hermanus Kuster, to be guardians over his children in their minority.

John Johnson undoubtedly built the first log house on his farm in Lower Salford, which is still standing in a dilapidated condition near the dwelling of Jacob Stoll. He owned this farm twenty-three years and then he and his wife sold the messuage and 150 acres thereof to their son, Nicholas Johnson. He then built the first house over to the road, where Joseph M. Cassel now lives, and then lived there yet nineteen years till his wife, Anna Maria, was dead. He took an active part in the affairs of the township and was an influential man. He was the same John Johnson who in company with Casper Wister, of Germantown, purchased 1000 acres of land in Lower Salford, from Charles Reed, Esq., High Sheriff for the city and county of Philadelphia, June 3, 1730. This tract extended from his own farm down to the line of Towamencin, and from the present North Wales and Sumneytown turnpike, before this road was laid out back to the line of Franconia township. But on November 5th of the same year, 1730, he sold out all his right and interest therein to Casper Wister. He was the administrator who settled the estate of Lawrence Bingeman, in 1733, as stated in the sketch of Jacob Hoffman, who lived where Abraham B. Alderfer now lives. I need not describe the farm of John Johnson, located on the Little Branch, where he had an extensive meadow, and the North Wales road when it was laid out in 1735, was laid on the line of his land, making it in many ways a desirable farm in those days and ever since. On January 19, 1748, John Johnson and his wife, Mary, granted to Nicholas Rary, a stocking weaver, of Germantown, seven acres and a quarter, of his best land, now belonging to Frank Heckler, and formerly, for many years to Adam Fisher. Nicholas Rary then lived there

and carried on the stocking weaving about twenty-seven years, and then died there intestate, leaving a widow and two sons, whose names were Henry and John. Letters of administration on his estate were granted to his widow, Mary, and son, Henry. These administrators together with Henry's wife, Catharine, sold and confirmed the lot to his brother, John Rary, and gave a conveyance dated February 1, 1776. John Rary owned this lot only two years, when he and his wife, Regina, confirmed the same property to Robert De Silver, May 2, 1778, though he perhaps never lived there, and owned it only about a month, when he and his wife, Mary, sold the same to Elizabeth Shuler, June 7, 1778. She owned this lot between ten and eleven years, and then made her last will and testament in writing dated September 17, 1788, and therein appointed John Lukens, of Towamencin, and her neighbor, Abraham Alderfer, of Lower Salford, her executors. In her will she ordered her executors to sell her lot at public sale to the highest bidder, which was done as ordered, and Isaac Markly, of Lower Salford, became the owner, and received his conveyance, May 27, 1789. He owned this lot twenty-two years, and then he and his wife, Sarah, conveyed the same messuage and seven acres and a quarter of land to George Heydrick, of Lower Salford, for £500, October 5, 1811.

The latter owned this lot fifteen years. But on May 25, 1826, George Heydrick and wife, Susanna, made an assignment to his brother, Baltzer Heydrick, and John S. Boorse, for the benefit of his creditors. One year later, April 17, 1827, John S. Boorse, one of the assignees, and his wife, Mary, conveyed this same lot with buildings and improvements to Baltzer Heydrick. He then

owned this lot and lived on it until the time of his death, which occurred February 4, 1846. He made his will, dated October 15, 1842, and therein devised this property to his two nephews, George and Samuel Heydrick, but on April 4, 1848. the two said brothers, and their parents, George and Susanna Heydrick, conveyed and confirmed this property to Adam Fisher, for $1500. He then owned the same until the time of his death, November 9, 1879, a period of nearly thirty-two years. In the meantime he added nearly eighteen acres of land to it, besides twelve acres which he purchased from Daniel Alderfer and wife, separate from his other land. Ten acres thereof Daniel Alderfer had purchased from Henry Detweiler, March 8, 1841. His other additions to his lot were made as follows, namely: from Aram Drake and wife, and Jacob O. Bergey and wife, eight acres and twenty-one perches of woodland, April 3, 1857. From Michael O. Ziegler and wife, eight acres and 101 perches, April 6, 1861, and from Jacob Stoll 135 perches, in the shape of a wedge, near his barn, April 6, 1861. Adam Fisher by his last will and testament devised all his real estate to his only son, Adam Fisher, Jr. He then owned this farm yet six years, when he and his wife conveyed it to Martin Heckler for his son, Frank, the present occupant, in 1887. Here is the oldest habitable house in the township; it being nearly 140 years old. Adam Fisher removed to Worcester township, near Center Point

JOHN JOHNSON.

On May 17, 1755, John Johnson and his wife, Anna Maria, conveyed to their son, Nicholas Johnson, 150 acres of land with buildings and improvements, for £180, besides the love and good will which they bore to their son. Since

this farm was, in a manner, cut out of the original tract we will give the boundaries as they were then given; beginning at a heap of stones in a line of Gabriel Shuler's land, (being the east corner,) then by the same south-west 186 perches to the middle of the great road leading to Philadelphia, then along the middle of said road and the said Gabriel Shuler's land north-west sixty perches to a corner, then north-east by land of Nicholas Rarich twenty perches to a stone, then by the said Rarich's land north-west fifty-eight perches to a white oak in a line of John Johnson's land, then by the same north-east fifty-eight perches to a post, then north twenty-eight degrees, west forty-nine perches to a stake, then by the same land north-east eighty-seven perches to a white oak sapling in a line of Jacob Krob's land then by the same land south-east 160 perches to the place of beginning. This farm then belonged to Nicholas Johnson and remained in his name twenty-one years, though he lived here only five years, for he died some time in May, 1760. He made his will dated May 9, 1760, which was proven May 30, of the same year. We are indebted to the kindness of Mr. Henry Dotterer, of Philadelphia, for the most important points in the will. Item second reads thus: "I give and bequeath unto my wife per advance one Bed and Bedstead, one Chest and one cow of her own Chosing, likewise, my Daughter, Magdalene, shall have one milk Cow per advance." His wife was also to have the third part of the proceeds of his personal property which was to be sold at public sale. Further on in the will we find the following: "My wife shall remain and Dwell on my place or plantation until my youngest Child is of age, and she is to manure and improve ye sd my Plantation within the sd Time Conditioned

that she nor any Body Else shall annually sow any more but one field with Winter Corn and One field with Summer Corn and from henceforth clear none of the Wood Land on ye sd Place within the sd Time." After his youngest child, which was then about five years old, was of age the real estate was to be sold. His two sons, John and Jacob, each were to have £20 in advance, and the remainder of his estate was to be divided into equal shares among all the children. His wife, Magdalene, and Christian Moyer were the executors, and Rudolph Harley, John Janson and Jacob Kropp, the witnesses. The names of only three children are mentioned, but there were more, their names are not known. According to the conditions and directions of the will it was expected that the widow and the children would remain on the farm those fifteen or sixteen years specified in the will, but that was a little too much for a widow of her age, and in the meantime she married George Schlotter, of Upper Salford, and removed up there to him. Though her son, John Johnson, remained on the farm until it was sold.

Sixteen years after his death the widow, Magdalene, Schlotter and Christian Moyer, executors, conveyed and confirmed the said plantation to Abraham Alderfer, of Lower Salford, for £995, May 18, 1776. It is said that some of these Johnson children afterward removed to Upper Salford, and it also appears probable.* Abra-

*We find a tradition that the widow of Nicholas Johnson hired George Schlotterer to work on her farm, and that she afterward married him and had yet three sons, whose names were Jacob, William and George. They all lived near Hendricks Station, in Upper Salford. We also find that George Schlotter, Schlotterer or Schlotterey, lived on the Johnson farm in 1768, and perhaps before and after. In that year he was one of the overseers of the poor in Lower Salford, and undoubtedly was married before that time. One of Nicholas Johnson's daughters, he name is said to have been Catharine, was the mother of Yellis Cassel and his brothers and sisters, and grandmother of Abraham H. Cassel. She died about the year 1824. One of her brothers had an oil mill on the Swamp creek, near the Perkiomen.

ham Alderfer owned this plantation, containing 150 acres, forty-nine years, and apparently died a rich man. He was twice married, but it is not remembered who either of his wives were. The name of the first was Catharine, and of the second, Esther; but as they left no issue it is a difficult matter to find out much about them. It has been said, the first was a Souder, but since it is so long ago it might have been the second. His first wife, Catharine, probably a Benner, died August 28, 1814, aged sixty-three years and ten days. He was then about sixty-seven years old and afterward married again. He made his last will and testament in writing dated January 21, 1818, and then lived yet until April 17, 1825, when he died, aged seventy-seven years, five months and fifteen days. His will was proven April 13, 1825, by his witnesses, Joseph Harley, Jacob Hagey and Joseph Alderfer. He appointed his two nephews, Benjamin Alderfer and Isaac Alderfer his executors, and his own brother, Joseph, trustee over his estate, over his wife, her person and her estate, and ordered that the executors should not do any thing without the advice and consent of the trustee. By giving the most important points in the will some person may perhaps know something about the family relations of his first or second wife. After ordering his funeral expenses to be paid he bequeathed to his second wife, Esther, his plantation containing 150 acres whereon he then lived, with all the appurtenances, buildings and so forth thereunto belonging, and all that was on the farm; all the movable goods, including horses and cattle, he gave to his wife, but reserved all his papers, money, bonds, notes and so forth for his other relatives. He then ordered his executors to pay £500 to his

wife one year after his death, and £125 to his wife's children, in equal shares, also one year after his demise for an advance, and to each one of his wife's three sisters £25, "named Elizabeth, Boley and Catharine, and to George Wunderlich £25;" to Nancy, wife of William Young, £50; to Elizabeth, wife of John Moyer, £20, for an advance, and to each one of Jacob Humel's three daughters, named Sarah, Elizabeth and Catharine, £20. He also bequeathed £15 to the Mennonite meeting in Lower Salford. After the said bequests had all been paid out by his executors one year after his decease, then the executors were to take away their compensation, and the residue of money, bonds and notes were to be divided in the following manner, namely: the children of his brother, Jacob Alderfer, and the children of his brother, John Alderfer, and the children of his first wife, Catharine's brothers and sisters, namely: Abraham Benner's children and Christian Benner's children, and Yellis Cassel's children, each of them and their heirs were then to have equal shares and all were to be paid out one year after his decease. There is some poor spelling and bad grammer in the will, and one quotation has been made because it is not plain.

We here see that Benjamin Alderfer, one of the executors, then paid $3.50 for letters testamentary and a copy of the will. They would now charge probably $15 for the same. Notwithstanding his will that his wife should have his farm or plantation, Benjamin Alderfer, one of the heirs, presented his petition to the judge of the Orphans' Court of Montgomery County, on the 15th day of August, 1825, praying the court to award an inquest, which was granted by the said court according to the prayer of the petition. Then, at an Orphans' court held in Norristown on the

21st of November, 1825, return of the twelve men and the sheriff, Philip, Boyer, was made, and they reported their appraisement of the farm at $25 per acre, amounting to $3,750, which was confirmed by the said court November 25, 1825, and on the same day Frederick Alderfer, saddler, being the eldest son and heir at law of the eldest brother, Jacob Alderfer, deceased, appeared in open court and said he would take the property at the appraisement. The said Frederick Alderfer then gave Benjamin Alderfer and his brother, Isaac Alderfer, the two executors, as his sureties for the faithful performance of the same, and the court then confirmed the farm to him. It was during the time that Abraham Alderfer owned this farm that a new house was built up near the residence of Abraham Nice, and the old log house still standing in a dilapidated condition near Jacob Stoll's house, was kept for a tenant to live in. That old log-house is the oldest building in the township and was built about the year 1730 or 1732. It must be at least 155 years old. Frederick Alderfer, of the third generation, who took this farm at the appraisement, did not take it for his own use; for on the following 6th of April, 1826, he and his wife, Elizabeth, confirmed this plantation to his two cousins, Mary and Elizabeth Alderfer, of Lower Salford, for $3,787.50. Those two single sisters then owned this large farm thirty years, but never lived on it. They had tenants living there through all those years, who made no improvements, but rather reduced the farm in value. But on September 6, 1856, they had John Eidemiller, of Green Lane, to survey their plantation and to cut off a tract containing probably about eighteen acres, now belonging to Jacob Stoll, who had been living there many years as a tenant. The main

farm which then contained yet 136 acres and fifty-five perches of land with old buildings thereon, excepting the barn which was new, they then sold to two speculators, namely, to Aram Drake, of Towamencin, and Jacob O. Bergey, of Lower Salford, for $6,414.97, and gave their conveyance dated February 6, 1857. These two men then cutting off twenty-six acres and seven perches of their land sold it to David Cassel, and gave him a conveyance dated April 3, 1857. They also sold, and gave conveyances at the same time, to the following men, namely: to Adam Fisher for eight acres and twenty-one perches of woodland; to Michael O. Ziegler, eight acres and 101 perches of woodland; to John A. Drake about five acres, also woodland; and the main farm, which then contained yet eighty-eight acres and eighty-six perches, they sold to Jacob Nice, for $4,350. All their conveyances are dated April 3, 1857. They undoubtedly made a fair sum of money by the operation. John A. Drake was accidentally killed on the North Penn railroad a short time afterward, and his lot was then purchased by Jacob Stoll. Jacob Nice owned and occupied this farm until the time of his death, December 17, 1875, a period of nearly nineteen years, during which time he rebuilt all the buildings, excepting the barn, and greatly improved the property.

The widow and her children then run the farm yet over two years, when it was sold to their son, Benjamin B. Nice, in 1878. He then had a public road laid out through there, and sold off twenty-five acres to Henry Wile, who built a new residence there. Mr. Nice owned this farm over six years, when almost unexpectedly he died, November 27, 1884. At the time of his death he owned yet sixty-three acres and eighty-six perches of land. Letters of ad-

ministration on his estate were then granted to his father-in-law, Abraham S. Alderfer, who sold the farm at public sale to Abraham B. Nice, the present owner, for $5,000, January 8, 1885, and gave a conveyance dated April 9th ensuing.

JOSEPH M. CASSEL'S FARM.

As already stated, John Johnson sold 150 acres of his land to to his son, Nicholas, in 1755, and had remaining yet fifty acres for himself now comprised in the farms of Joseph M. Cassel and Frank Nyce. About thirty-five acres of his tract belongs to Cassel, and about fifteen to Nice. John Johnson built the first house where Joseph M. Cassel now lives and owned that farm until his wife was dead, when he sold the same fifty acres with buildings and improvements to Paul Knapper, May 5, 1774. The latter owned this farm five years when he and his wife, Margaret, conveyed the same to Daniel King, November 16, 1779. In less than three years Mr. King and wife, Rebecca, sold the same to George Markley for £528, April 22, 1782. Ten years Mr. Markley owned this farm and then purchased the farm from his father and mother, Isaac and Sarah Markley, which now belongs to Frank Nice, and two years later, December 19, 1794, he and his wife, Elizabeth, sold thirty-six acres with buildings and improvements, water right and so forth to his brother, Abraham Markley, for £600, and reserved fourteen or fifteen acres which he added to the farm now owned by Frank Nice.

Abraham Markley was a saddler by trade. He then owned the Cassel farm over seventeen years, when he and his wife, Elizabeth, sold the same property to Joseph Harley, of Lower Salford, April 2, 1812. Abraham Markley's wife was a grand daughter of Nicholas Schwenk, as stated in the "History of Harleysville."

Joseph Harley's wife was a daughter of Jacob and Catharine Reiff, and widow of William Price, as stated in the sketch of the Price family and in the sketch of the Harley family; and here they lived about twenty-four years, or until the time of his death, November 9, 1835.

For many years there was a water right in Cassel's meadow in two ditches, one on each side of the meadow, to take the water over it, which was specified particularly in the deed.

This farm was sold by Jacob Price, sole executor of the last will and testament of Joseph Harley, to David Cassel, of Skippack and Perkiomen township, for $2514.58, March 30, 1837. Mr. Cassel has now lived there over fifty years, but his son, Joseph, owns the property. The farm now contains about sixty acres. Twenty-six acres having been added thereto, April 3, 1857, as already stated.

THE FRANK NICE FARM.

The farm now containing about fifty acres, belonging to Frank Nice, is for the greater part thereof, a remnant of the Binder farm, which at first contained 150 acres and 146 perches, which Christian Allebach and Christian Moyer, Jr., executors of the estate of Christian Stauffer, granted to Rev. John Philip Boehm, of Whitpain, Gabriel Shuler, of Lower Salford, and Ulrich Stephen, whose residence is not know, March 22, 1735. But on July 13th of the same year, the two last mentioned granted all their right and interest therein to Mr Boehm, who sold 100 acres thereof to Henry Moyer, April 9, 1745, as stated in the "History of Harleysville." And the remnant of the tract, which then comprised yet forty-nine acres and 126 perches, Mr. Boehm and wife, Anna Maria, conveyed to Henry Denich or Deenig, December 28, 1745. It is probable that the first house

had been built here by Christian Stauffer, because there is a lasting spring with water at the house, and was perhaps that old log house which stood where the new one now stands, in which William Kulp carried on the clock and watch making business many years, as some of us will recollect. Henry Denich removed from the farm now belonging to Solomon Wasser, Jr., to this place, and died, after purchasing the farm now belonging to Frederick Seitz, about the beginning of the year 1760. He owned this farm over six years, or, from December 28, 1745 to May 2, 1752, when he and his wife, Margaret, conveyed the same to Charles Swartz. Two years later, April 15, 1754, Mr. Swartz and wife, Mary, conveyed the same to John Snyder, of Lower Salford, but he probably never lived here, for he owned it only a little over three months until he and his wife, Blandino, sold the same property to a German, whose name was Martin Shawecker. The latter arrived in Philadelphia, as a foreigner, September 2, 1749. Purchasing this property he owned it nearly six years, when he and his wife, Barbara, conveyed the same to Jacob Denich, who was a son of Henry Denich, a former owner of this place, May 16, 1760. But he owned this farm only three years, when he and his wife, Mary, conveyed the same to Henry Fry, June 10, 1763. After owning this farm six years, he and his wife, Christiana, conveyed the same property to Herman Achey, September 16, 1769. He became a substantial resident and owned this farm twenty-three years. He took an active part in the affairs of the township and appears to have been a man of influence. He was one of the auditors of the township every year from 1772 to 1779, when he was elected one of the supervisors, to which position he was elect-

ed the following year also, thus holding the office two years. He lived to the advanced age of ninety-one years, and died February 4, 1815. He and his wife, Anna Maria, conveyed their farm to Isaac Markley, March 31, 1792. But on the following 29th of November, of the same year, Mr. Markley and his wife, Sarah, conveyed this farm to their son George Markley, who then lived where Joseph M. Cassel now lives. Isaac Markley at that time was well advanced in years, and owned the farm now belonging to Frank Tyson, of Lower Salford, and the lot now belonging to Frank Heckler, formerly the residence of Adam Fisher. At that time George Markley's farm, now Joseph Cassel's, contained a panhandle, *i. e.*, a long narrow strip of land twenty-one perches wide, between Abraham Alderfer's farm and the farm which he purchased from his father. But, after owning the said farm he cut the said panhandle over to this tract and sold the Cassel farm then containing yet thirty-six acres to his brother, Abraham. This farm being cut off from the Binder farm, was a remnant of land which contained a strip of about ten perches wide, somewhat in the shape of a boot, extending all the way back along the Krupp farm to the other road 130 perches, and about eighty perches up the said road. It was an ill-shaped farm. Seventy two perches of this boot were purchased by Rudolph Harley, from John Snyder and wife, in 1754. George Markley owned this farm nearly ten years and in the meantime sold of some of the said boot, for when he and his wife, Elizabeth, sold this property to Henry Kulp, April 1, 1802, it contained only yet fifty-nine acres and 125 perches. Three acres and ninety-five perches he and his wife had sold to Henry Harley, December 19, 1794. Henry Kulp

also sold off several small tracts of that boot which reduced the farm to nearly what it now is. Henry Kulp was a son of Jacob Kulp, who owned a fulling mill on the Ridge Valley creek in Upper Salford township, about a mile from Tylersport, where he was rated on eighty-eight acres of land and a fulling mill, in 1776. In his father's fulling mill Henry Kulp learned the art of dying, which he followed many years at his home on his farm, and was generally known among the Germans as "*Bloferber Kolb*"—"Dyer Kulp." The writer now owns his steelyard, which draws the weight at every two ounces. Henry Kulp afterward lived here until the time of his death in 1850, when he was over eighty years of age. Here his son, William, carried on the the clock and watch making business many years, and also became the owner of the farm, which he held until the time of his death, in June, 1880. His executor, George D. Alderfer, Esq., then sold the farm containing fifty acres, at public sale October 1, 1882, to the widow Kulp, for her son-in-law, Frank Nice, the present owner, for $9,100. The buildings are all new, and were built by William Kulp.

ONE THOUSAND ACRES.

Reference has several times been made in these sketches to a tract of one thousand acres of land, which Charles Reed, high sheriff of the city and county of Philadelphia, sold as the property of Joseph Jones, to Caspar Wistar, brass button-maker of the city of Philadelphia, and John Johnson, of Salford, on the 3rd day of June, 1730. But on the 5th of November, of the same year, 1730, John Johnson granted a moiety and all his part and interest therein to the said Caspar Wistar. Upon a resurvey sometime afterward, it was found that the tract contained 1073 acres, or seventy-three acres more than had been sold, which extra number of acres

were then paid for additionally. By a draft made of this tract some years later, after it was sold out in smaller portions or parcels, it appears that the sum of all the acres really contained in the tract amounted to 1171 acres and twenty perches. We will now try to give some description of the bounds thereof, and the divisions, or portions thereof, and the individuals who purchased them. Beginning on the line of Towamencin township, in the North Wales and Sumneytown turnpike, at the Skippack bridge, at Mainland, we will run north-east along the line of Towamencin, 485 perches to the line of Franconia township; then north-west along the line of Franconia, and up into the said township, 387 perches to an unknown corner. From there we will go south-west across the farm, at present owned by John Swartz, by striking a right line to meet a road at what was formerly the residence of Lewis Haycock, deceased, along said road and across a field, we cross the turnpike some where south-east of Jacob F. Alderfer's lane, and go into his field yet forty or fifty perches to an imaginary corner, the whole distance of 500 perches; from this corner we will strike a line over the fields south-east through Godshalk Delp's house and barn and then along the middle of the turnpike from there on down to the place of beginning, a distance of 387 perches, and signify that this was the thousand-acre tract purchased by Caspar Wistar, in 1730.

On the Towamencin side from the present turnpike over to the Hatfield line, and down to the Forty-foot Road, 1000 acres had been purchased by Abraham Tennis and Jan Lucken in June 1703, and was divided by them into two tracts in 1709, each receiving 500 acres. The Tennis family has become extinct in this vicinity, but the Lukens family is still represented on this land.

While other parts of Lower Salford were fast settling up, this portion of it, appears to have been, for some time, entirely unoccupied, unless perhaps by Squatters along the Skippack. After this great tract was purchased there were yet two small parcels of vacant land on the west side of the great road, though the road was not laid out then yet. One strip was eleven perches wide and sixty-four in length, containing four acres and sixty-four perches of land extended along the North Wales road between the line of Towamencin and the road above Mainland. The other tract was thirty-eight perches wide and 112 long, extending from the public road behind Jonas Alderfer's barn, up to the line between Godshalk Delp and William Keyser, containing twenty-six acres and ninety-six perches. These two small tracts were also purchased from the Colonial government by Caspar Wistar soon after purchasing the other large tract, and were confirmed to him by a patent dated November 5, 1734.

Bordering his other great tract, Gabriel Shuler purchased 101 acres and 143 perches. From the west corner of Casper Wister's land, not far from the turnpike, now in the field near Jacob F. Alderfer's lane, down to the road above William Keyser's farm, sixty-eight and a half perches, was the width of the tract; then out that road north-east crossing the North Wales road, the line extended 238 perches to a corner; then north-west sixty-eight and a half perches to a corner near what was recently the residence of Lewis Haycock; then out that road south-west 238 perches to the place of beginning. This tract was purchased by Gabriel Shuler soon after it came into market: and after the Shulers it was owned in part by the Alderfer family. By a draft made by Cadwalader Foulke, of Gwynedd, in 1826, it appears

that Isaac, Jacob and Frederick Alderfer, and Baltzer Heydrick, each owned a portion of this land. It nearly all remained in timber until within the last half century. Some parts of it are still owned by members of the Alderfer family. Sixty or more years ago people sometimes became lost in this forest. When I was young I occasionally heard people relate such adventures which occurred in their time.

It was fortunate for the Schwenkfelders who arrived in Pennsylvania in 1734 and 1735, that this tract of land did not get into market sooner, for a large portion of it was purchased by members of that society.

FREDERICK GETZ.

From the place of beginning in the North Wales road at the Skippack bridge, on the line of Towamencin, Caspar Wistar's men chained off, on the township line, north-east eighty-five perches to a stake; then running a line at right angles and parallel to the great road, all the way up to Gabriel Shuler's tract, 318 perches to the line running north-east from the corner in the road above William Keysers, and eighty-five perches from the said corner, they measured down on either side 100 perches and drew a line across near the residence of Isaac Delp, which made a tract of fifty-one acres and 140 perches, in the upper portion, and 115 acres and 130 perches in the lower part. This lower tract was 218 perches in length along the great road and eighty-five perches wide, and this with the four acres and sixty-four perches on the other side of the great road, contained 120 acres and thirty-four perches. Part of this tract was sold by Caspar Wistar and Catharine, his wife, to Frederick Getz, and a conveyance was granted June 20, 1748. The other or upper part, containing about thirty-five acres, was purchased by Abraham and Joseph Lukens. The greater part of these two parts

are now owned by Jacob N. Clemens. At that time the farm on the north-east, now belonging to Jacob R. Detweiler, was owned by Christopher Heebner. The land on the Towamencin side belonged to John Lukens, and on the south-west side it belonged to "Getshellick Getshellick"—Godshalk Godshalk, and to Christian Stauffer. How long Frederick Getz lived here I can not say, but apparently it was about forty years. He made his last will and testament in writing dated March 19, 1760, and therein devised all his land to his son Bernard Getz. There were three children, namely: Bernard, Jacobina and John. There appears either to have been some dissatisfaction about the will, or else it took Bernard several years to make satisfaction for the farm to the other two heirs. Jacobina Bossert, widow and only daughter, released her brother Bernard Getz on December 18, 1779. John Getz, an only brother, signed his release May 22, 1781. Frederick and John Getz, both were identified with the church in Goshenhoppen.

The first house that stood on Jonas N. Alderfer's farm, was built by Christian Stauffer, who lived there some years; but after his demise his executors sold the farm to Peter Boorse, December 26, 1782. But as meadow land was an essential feature of a farm in those days it was considered a poor farm when it had no meadow. Consequently to improve his farm Peter Boorse purchased of Bernard Getz and Eve, his wife, twenty-five acres and 113 perches of land on the north-east side of the road which was turned into meadow. Their conveyance is dated March 10, 1783, and is witnessed by Garret Godshalk, Samuel Delp and Ludwig Benner, before Michael Croll, Esq. At the same time, before the same witnesses and the same justice of the peace,

Bernard Getz and Eve, his wife, conveyed the remaining part of their farm containing yet eighty acres and 135 perches of land to Leonard Hendricks. From adraft made by Henry Schweitzer, conveyancer, it appears that Garret Godshalk then owned the land on the Towamencin side of this farm; the same land is now owned by Charles Wambold. Godshalk also owned the farm now belonging to James Markley.

Leonard Hendricks owned his farm twenty-nine years, and then conveyed it to his son, Jacob, May 3, 1812. Jacob Hendricks owned this farm until the time of his death, which occurred in 1829, being the owner thereof only seventeen years. He was not an old man when he died. He had been married to Isabella Boorse and left four children to mourn his early departure. The children were John B. Jacob, Jr., Susanna, first wife of Peter Hendricks, and Samuel B. After the death of Jacob Hendricks this farm was appraised by an order of Orphans' court, and was confirmed to his eldest son, John B. Hendricks, by the said court, November 17, 1729. He lived there until 1853, when he sold the farm with improvements to Abraham Nice who owned this property and lived there thirty-one years. The latter then sold it to Jacob N. Clemens, the present owner, in 1884.

John B. Hendricks and his family, Jacob Hendricks, Jr., and Samuel B Hendricks, emigrated to Sterling, Whiteside county, Illinois, between the years 1853 and 1858. They did not all go at the same time. A few years after John B. Hendricks lived out there he died. His children were Leonard, Rachel, first wife of John Moyer; Ephraim, who married Mary Rosenberger; Margaret, wife of David Moyer; Sabilla, wife of Samuel Gerhart; John D., who came back to Lower Salford and purchased the old

Heckler mill, from Jacob Zepp in 1875, which is now the Willow Dale Creamery, and his brother Samuel D. I mention these things that they may not be forgotten. Jacob Hendricks also had some children but they all died young before they moved to Illinois, and afterward they had yet one, a daughter. His wife was a sister to Solomon Snyder, of Kulpsville. Samuel B. Hendricks was married to a daughter of Abraham Hallman, of Towamencin, and sister to Abraham T. Hallman, of Lower Salford. Susanna, first wife of Peter Hendricks, died leaving an only son, Nathan, who died several years ago.

JACOB ARNDT.

The farms now belonging to Godshall Delp, Isaac Delp and the greater part of the farm belonging to William Keyser at first were all in one tract, represented as containing seventy-eight acres when it was purchased by Jacob Arndt soon after it came into market. The old conveyances appear to be lost and we can therefore not give the date of the first purchase nor of the second, but we can tell by conveyances of adjacent tracts that it was purchased by Jacob Arndt about the year 1734, though his name is not in the tax list of that year, but that is no evidence to the contrary, for there was none of that land belonging to Casper Wistar's thousand acres taxed then yet, unless he was taxed for it. Neither can we say how long Jacob Arndt owned this property, but we see by a draft that fifty-one acres and 140 perches were on the east side of the line, and twenty-six acres and ninety-six perches were on the west side separately extending down to the road behind Jonas Alderfer's barn. Mr. J. D. Souder, in his "History of Franconia Township," tells us that Jacob Arndt was one of the founders of the Indian Creek Reformed church, in 1753. To whom or when he

sold this farm we can not say, since his conveyance is lost. This property then came into the hands of Philip Stong, who lived where Abraham B. Alderfer now lives; but how long he owned it I can not say for the deed or conveyance is lost. He and his wife, Barbara, sold the same property to their son, Henry, January 28, 1795. The latter was a tanner by trade, and he undoubtedly built the tannery which was there. He owned this property twenty-one years, when he and his wife, Mary, conveyed the farm and tannery to John Snyder, of Gwynedd, April 6, 1816. Then John Snyder and his wife, Barbara, sold to Jacob Stong, June 3, 1816, the tannery with all the buildings belonging to it, and seven acres of land—*i. e.* the buildings belonging to the tannery. John Snyder afterward kept a hotel there until 1835. In 1834 he and his wife made an assignment to Henry Snyder, of Gwynedd, and Jacob Oberholtzer, of Hatfield, for the benefit of the creditors. Those assignees sold the messuage and sixty acres and twenty-eight perches of land at public sale to Benjamin Alderfer, of Lower Salford, and gave a conveyance therefor dated April 4, 1835.

It will thus be seen that John Snyder lived there nineteen years, and it will also be seen that his hotel business did not pay very largely. It was probably the first year that Snyder lived here, or perhaps before he was here, that a man by name of Humel was killed while digging a well at this place, by the tardy or untimely explosion of a blast in the well. Benjamin Alderfer lived there between three and four years, for on August 11, 1838, as he was standing under a tree near his door he was killed by lightning. His father, Jacob Alderfer, and his widow, Elizabeth, afterward took out letters of administration and sold the farm still containing sixty acres and twenty-

eight perches to Henry Godshalk. Their conveyance bears date April 2, 1839. He lived there eight years when his wife died, and he sold his farm to Jacob H. Alderfer, May 20, 1847. The latter sold off about five acres to Paul Barndt at some time during those nineteen years that he owned it, but then he and his wife sold this property still containing fifty-five acres and 104 perches to Godshalk Deip, the present owner, April 9, 1866. That brick house which is there now was built by Jacob H. Alderfer, but the barn was built by the present owner.

Snyder's school house as it was called is represented as having been built in the beginning of this century, about the year 1806. It stood where William Keyser's house now stands. We are informed that about the year 1820 the school therein was taught by Abijah Miller, an old time school master, who was a descendant of a Quaker family. He was an old bachelor and taught school many years. About the middle and forepart of this century there was one Enoch Miller also an old bachelor at that time who had been a school master many years. I can not say by whom this school house had been built, but can say that it was turned into a dwelling at some time and an addition was built to it. There were six or perhaps eight acres of land laid off to it from Snyder's farm after the house ceased to be used for a school house, which apparently may have been about the year 1830, or perhaps earlier. It is remembered that it was occupied by Andrew Kreamer, an old bachelor, who had been a soldier in the war of 1812, and in later years was a captain among the militia. About the year 1840 there was a blacksmith shop there, but a few years later the shop was moved over to where Mary Alderfer's barn now stands. The lot was owned by

Jacob Alderfer, if I mistake not, and some years later belonged to James Bustard who built a new barn there, and he afterward sold it to his son-in-law, William Keyser, the present owner, who built that house there and added quite a number of acres thereto.

The tanyard embraced a number of buildings, vats, pits, pumps and so forth, which occupied considerable space and was located on the west side of the road opposite to Isaac Delp's house, but there was no residence there when it was purchased by Jacob Stong in 1816; consequently we conclude that he put the first house there in that year. He owned this lot and tanyard only four years, and then sold it to Philip Zieber, of Whitemarsh, a tanner by trade, March 2, 1820. He owned this tannery and seven acres of land thirteen years and then conveyed it to Isaac Schneider in April, 1833. The latter purchased yet two additional acres and eleven perches of land from Jacob Kulp and wife, Elizabeth, of Hatfield, March 16, 1837. Mr. Kulp had bought the same from John Snyder and wife, April 16, 1816. Isaac Schneider owned this tannery nineteen years, but on February 12, 1852, he granted the same messuage, tannery, buildings and improvements, and nine acres and eleven perches of land to Abraham Barndt, of Upper Salford, who put his son, Paul Barndt, on the premises to run the tannery and to cultivate the land. Four years later, April 13, 1856, the parents conveyed this same property to their son. Paul Barndt then owned the same nineteen years, but in the meantime as the tanning business became poor, took away the tanyard and went to farming and increased his acres until April 10, 1875, when he and his wife conveyed this farm containing twenty acres and twenty perches of land to Isaac Delp,

of Lower Salford, the present owner.

MAINLAND.

When and by whom the first house in Mainland was built is involved in uncertainty. We have nothing certain until 1783, when we find the lot with buildings represented as containing twelve acres and 106 perches of land, belonging to John King but more recent surveys show that it must have contained about fifteen acres. The land was cut out of the farm of Bernard Getz. In the tax list of Lower Salford, in 1776, we find that a man by name of Valentine Haake (or Hagey) lived somewhere in this vicinity, on rent, and had nothing taxable excepting one cow; and since I do not know where else he might have lived I am inclined to believe that he lived here; that the first house was built by Bernard Getz and not by John King as had been supposed. The latter kept a public house here, but the accommodations were too small for convenience. King apparently did not live here long, for we find that before 1788 he had sold his tavern to George Trumbore, who is yet remembered by a few very old people. He lived here some twenty odd years and died here shortly before 1812; but his widow and children then run the tavern yet about two years until the widow was dead also. We must remember that the first public house, we could not call it a hotel, was kept over at Stauffer's, now Isaac D. Alderfer's place, that a private road went by there crossing the Skippack below the mill, thus avoiding these steep hills, as they then were, on both sides of this village. This property was afterwards purchased by Jonas Boorse, who owned it about forty years. On April 1, 1816, Mr. Boorse purchased eighteen acres and seventy-two perches of land from Henry Nice and wife, located on the other side of the Skippack, in Towamencin, to his lot. He afterward

purchased yet two other additional tracts—one from his father-in-law, Godshalk Godshalk, March 28, 1825; the other from the estate of his father-in-law which was granted unto him by George Delp and wife, Susanna; Jacob Fry and wife, Mary; John Clemens and wife, Ann; Jacob Alderfer and wife, Catharine; Garret Godshalk and wife, Ann; Peter Godshalk and wife, Lovina; John Godshalk and wife, Ann; Jonas C. Godshalk and his wife, Catharine, and Henry Godshalk, April 4, 1836. Jonas Boorse kept the tavern and a small store all in the same building for many years, but in 1849 he built a storehouse separately on the other side of the road, now the residence of Samuel Heebner. There was a row of double sheds there for the accommodation of horses with a passage or entry through the middle and a door at each gable end. It extended along the pike and the upper end came up so far as to the well in front of Isaiah Heckler's house. Then there were doors on each side of the sheds to the stables for the horses, and as the building was about thirty feet wide there was some room overhead. Wooden steps outside at the upper end near the pump led to a room on the loft which was used as a ware-house, and such things as crockery and wooden ware were kept there. There was considerable open space for the accommodation of teams on the other side of the sheds. Another long row of sheds with doors only on one side toward the rising sun extended back from where the store house now stands to Mr. Heckler's barn-yard. Near the upper end of the sheds, about the upper end of the store, there then stood a small building in which Reuben G. Boorse taught school in 1838-39. Perhaps he taught there already prior to this date. He was a good teacher for those times, and was highly respected. In the spring

of the year 1843, he suddenly disappeared. It was suspected that he fell into the hands of the notorious Ellingers, who lived on the Perkiomen, and was robbed and murdered by them, but no evidence to substantiate this suspicion was ever obtained. Boisterous rumors were afloat over the country for a long time, but no evidence to any effect in regard to his disappearance ever came to the light.

The hotel is nearly the same as it was fifty years ago when there was much business done here, when long strings of heavy teams drawn by four, and sometimes by six horses or mules conveyed the produce of the upper districts, and of Berks and Lehigh counties, over this road to market in Philadelphia. An account of the business done on this road has already been given in the "History of Harleysville," and I may yet add that some benefit of the business was also reaped at this tavern. The old sign post stood nearer to the pump than the one there now. The sign was a little longer than wide with a white horse painted on, hung in a frame, suspended on hooks or hinges, swinging to and fro and screaching in the wind This has been a place of some business already over 100 years, and as the years roll away it will increase more and more.

It is probable that in some not very distant day some millionaire may build his country seat on the high lands of the Skippack overlooking the Pleasant Valley. There is no telling what the future may bring forth. As already stated, part of the dwelling belonging to Samuel Heebner was built for a store house in 1849. The house owned by Isaiah Heckler was built by Jonas C. Godshall in 1855, and little did any one think, at that time, that so soon there would be a village there. It received the name of Main-

land from Daniel Hackman about the year 1873, while he kept the store there. He died there in 1875. Previous to his residence here this place bore the euphonious appellation of Mount Vernon. The valley of the Skippack along there down to the mill has long been known as Pleasant Valley. The post office in Mainland was obtained by James A. Harley, and was opened by him November 26, 1877, while keeping the store there.

The bridge over the Skippack at this place was built in 1843. It was a big work and took a long time. The stones for this structure were nearly all quarried up near the Little Branch, in Herman Fogel's field. At that time there was much business at the tavern; the sheds were still standing there, and the old barn stood where the new one now stands. Farther up the road where Amos Richards and Samuel Kepler now live was the residence of Molly Krupp, who lived there many years, but who she was I can not say.

The North Wales and Sumneytown turnpike was finished in 1848, and the gates were hung in the autumn of that year.

The next spring, early in 1849, Jonas Boorse built that storehouse, now the residence of Samuel Heebner, and moved his store into that. But the next spring, being 1850, he sold out his store and huckster business to two young men named David Moyer and Samuel Gerhart, both from Hilltown, Bucks county. Moyer took the store in hand and Gerhart attended to the huckster business. These young men both married John Hendricks' daughters as already stated. Moyer, after running the store about two years, run it into the ground, and there was no store there from that time until after Daniel Hackman had built his store house in 1872.

Jonas C. Godshalk purchased from Jonas Boorse and wife, Elizabeth, the hotel stand, store house and fifty acres and 148 perches of land, including sheds and all his real estate in Lower Salford and Towamencin, April 2, 1855. He then divided this property into three principal parts, two of which he sold and kept one containing eighteen acres and fifty-five perches for himself. The hotel and the greater part of the land now belonging to it he sold to Abraham Shell, of Upper Hanover, and the lot containing the storehouse, now belonging to Samuel Heebner, he sold to Solomon Snyder, who, some years later, sold the same to Mr. Heebner.

Jonas C. Godshalk, Esq., then built that large house on his lot now belonging to Isaiah B. Heckler, and lived there until July 25, 1871, when he died. Letters of administration on his estate were granted to his two sons-in-law, Dr. Benjamin K. Johnson and Peter B. Boorse, who sold the real estate at public sale to Daniel Hackman, of Franconia, for $4,800, November 28, 1871, and granted a conveyance dated April 6, 1872. Mr. Hackman then built that storehouse and opened a store there that same year yet. He run the store about three years and died here in 1875. After his death letters of administration on his estate were granted to John C. Godshall and Isaac Godshall, of Franconia, who sold the real estate, containing the messuage, storehouse, and yet eleven acres and 150 perches of land at public sale, to George Heckler, of Lower Salford, for $6,950, November 27, 1875. The dwelling was some time afterward occupied by Isaiah Heckler, but the messuage and nearly all the land were transferred to him some time later. The storehouse and lot of land were occupied by Jacob B. Heckler and James A. Harley as partners at first, but Heckler soon retired and Harley pur-

chased the property. He then built that dwelling now belonging to the store, and after doing business there over three years, made an assignment to George D. Alderfer, Esq., for the benefit of creditors, July 14, 1879. On the following 23d of August this property was sold at public sale to Mr. Harley's father-in-law, John Landes, of Perkiomen. His son, Benjamin F Landes, then leasing the property for three years, took the store in hand and did a fair business, as Harley also had done before him, until the autumn of 1882, when his father sold him out by the sheriff, the like of which had not been heard of before. Mr. Landes then put his son, John B. Landes, into the store who did business for his father about two months, when Mr. Schlosser, the present owner, came to his relief, leased the store property for three years, but soon afterward made it his own by purchase. Mr. Schlosser is a whole souled business man and knows how to draw custom; the amount of his business was not equalled by any one before him. We are also indebted to him for obtaining for us valuable information relating to the hotel property at this place now belonging to Samuel Delp.

The conveyances belonging to this property are lost, and it would be hard to say who was the owner thereof without a glance at the conveyances, but if memory is worth anything, we can say that Abraham Shell, who purchased the premises from Jonas C. Godshall, came there early in the spring of 1856. He lived here nearly four years and died here in 1859. The next year the place was occupied by Coplin Kepler, but only one year, when it came into the hands of Jesse Schlotterer, in 1871. He occupied the premises four years, or until 1865, when Nathan Gery came here and occupied the place one year;

and after him Jesse Schlotterer lived here yet two years, or until 1868, and Anthony Seipt, president of the Perkiomen rail road, was probably the lawful owner thereof. But the property was then purchased by William Hunsicker, who occupied this stand about fifteen years, or until 1883. It then came into the hands of Jacob Krupp, who lived there one year, and after him John Kuhn occupied the place one year, when it was purchased by Samuel Delp, the present owner and proprietor, in 1885. There is a large hall connected with the hotel for meetings or gatherings of any kind. The village contains twelve dwellings.

Besides the hotel and the store, Mainland may be said to be noted for its butchers and the amount of cattle and hogs slaughtered here every year. Francis Wack does an extensive business in supplying the country people with meat and sausages, and James Brunner also follows the same business. There is a blacksmith shop here where Mr. Overholtzer makes the anvil ring; a shoemaker shop where Amos Richards applies the awl and last, and a tailor shop where Arnold Becker makes gentlemen's clothing.

HENRY SLINGLUFF.

The ancestor of the Slingluff family arrived in Pennsylvania in the ship Mortonhouse in company with Jacob Reiff and others on his return from a visit to his fatherland, August 19, 1729. A few years later Henry Slingluff took possession of a long narrow strip of land, thirty-seven perches wide along the line of Towamencin, and 318 perches long, extending up so far as the crossroad above William Keysers, containing seventy-three acres and eighty-six perches His conveyance is dated November 13, 1736. On the south-west it was bounded by lands of Frederick Getz and Jacob Arndt, on the north-east by Hoffman's land and Caspar

Wistar's other land. It will be remembered that the front of this tract along the Towamencin line was only thirty-seven perches wide. Part of this land is now owned by Jacob R. Detweiler. After owning this tract four years and living here perhaps eight or nine years Henry Slingluff drifted down the Cheltenham township. He and his wife, Christiana, conveyed their premises or farm to Chrsitopher Heebner, for £86, November 5, 1740. The original name was written in German Schlingeluf. He was a deacon in the Dunkard church, and in 1764 was on a committee to investigate and set in order things in connection with Christopher Saur, of Germantown, who, it was claimed, had printed some objectionable matter. Slingluff was a weaver by trade, and his wife's name was Anna Christiana. When he bought this land from Caspar Wistar he paid £66 for it, then by selling it for £86 he gained £20, which was making money in those days. It is very probable that houses had been built by squatters on these lands along the Skippack before it was sold by the sheriff, or during the time it was owned or claimed by Joseph Jones.

Christopher Heebner owned this farm eighteen years. He was a resident of Lower Salford when he bought the farm, and after owning it five years purchased an additional tract containing fifty acres, from Abraham Lukens and Joseph Lukens. This tract was sixty-five perches wide and was represented as being 124 perches long, and this is certainly a mistake. It had been cut out of Frederick Getz's land, extending from Heebner's other land out to "the Cowisiopin road," now the turnpike, which was only eighty-five perches, and could not have been 124 perches, unless they measured all the way across his other land, consequently it could not have been more than thirty-five acres. This tract, what-

ever number of acres it contained, was purchased by Mr. Heebner December 10, 1745. On the first of April, 1758, Christopher Heebner and his wife, Maria, conveyed those two adjacent tracts of land to Hans Getz, for £370. Maria Heebner was one of those accomplished female writers belonging to the Schwenkfelder society, who wrote numerous books in such artistic style in the German language that they look almost like the German print, and are very much admired and sought after by antiquarians. They came to Pennsylvania in 1737. They wrote their names in German, Hiebner. He was a poor writer. Her maiden name was Yeakel.

Hans Getz owned these two adjacent tracts eleven years, and on March 25, 1769, he and his wife, Mary, conveyed all the land and improvements to Bernard Getz, for £700. The latter, at the same time, owned the adjacent farm, now belonging to Jacob N. Clemens. Neither Hans Getz nor his wife could write their names. Bernard Getz owned these two tracts five years, and on February 9, 1774, he and his wife, Eve, conveyed the same land and improvements to Jacob Bossart, of Marlborough township, for £600, losing £100 by the transaction. Here she signed her name Elizabeth and not Eve as on the other papers. This is strange. In the assessment of 1776 Jacob Bossart is rated on 120 acres. He lived here eight years, and on April 4, 1782, he and Eve, his wife, conveded to Leonard Hendricks, of Towamencin, one tract containing seventy-three acres and eighty-seven perches with improvements, for £420. The latter was assessed for 125 acres in Towamencin, in 1776. It appears that at some time after 1776, during the time this land was owned by Mr. Bossart, he sold to Bernard Getz the tract which had been cut out of that farm.

After owning this farm one year Leonard Hendricks also bought the adjacent farm containing yet eighty acres and 135 perches from Bernard Getz and Eve, his wife. This farm, now owned by Jacob N. Clemens, at first contained 120 acres, but Mr. Getz sold twenty-five acres to Peter Boorse, and about fifteen acres to John King, in his lot with the hotel at Mainland. Leonard Hendricks was not a rich man, notwithstanding the number of acres he owned; he gave a mortgage to Peter Heisler, of Germantown, on his last purchased farm, March 1, 1788. The next year he cut out thirteen acres of his land up along the southwest side of what is now George Heckler's woods and sold it to George Heydrick, May 22, 1798. As Hendricks had yet about twenty acres of land on the other side of the tract which he sold, he reserved a road along the west side of it which had to be protected by gates or bars. Therefore both parties were bound up strongly to see that the gates or bars were always closed after passing through. Thirty-three years those gates or bars had to be attend to, but then this land was bought back again. Leonard Hendricks died in 1825. He had four children—one son and three daughters. Their names were: Jacob, Margaret, wife of George Swartz, of Buckingham township, Bucks county; Elizabeth, wife of Michael Ruth, oil miller, of Bucks county, and Rachel, wife of George Delp, of Towamencin. After the death of their father, Jacob Hendricks became the owner of both these farms. But it came to pass that Jacob Hendricks died in 18 9, only four years after his father's death. He left a widow named Isabella. She lived to be very old, and died June 12, 1859. She was generally known as old "Bilka" Hendricks. After the death of Jacob Hendricks these farms

were appraised by an order of Orphans' court, and this farm was confirmed to Jacob Hendricks, Jr., second son of Jacob Hendricks, deceased, by the said court, in 1829.

On the 17th of April 1827, Baltzer Heydrick and John S. Boorse, of Lower Salford, assignees for George Heydrick and wife, conveyed to John B. Hendricks those thirteen acres of land which had been cut out of this farm twenty-nine years previously, and had to be secured by gates or bars. Four years later, April 13, 1831, John B. Hendricks and wife, Elizabeth, conveyed those thirteen acres to Jacob Hendricks, thus bringing it back again into the farm where it belonged. Three years later, on April 5, 1834, Jacob Hendricks conveyed this farm of seventy-three acres and eighty-seven perches to Leonard Delp, of Lower Salford, who had previously been living up in the north corner of the township, near the Indian Creek. He sold about seven acres of land on the east side of the Skippack creek, along the line of Towamencin, to Amos Richards, who built the first house where Joel Cassel now lives. Some time since this was the residence of Jacob Wambold. After owning this farm two years Leonard Delp and his wife, Elizabeth, conveyed this property to Henry Detweiler, of Upper Providence, April 4, 1836. The latter sold ten acres of land at the upper end of his tract to Daniel Alderfer, March 8, 1841. Mr. Detweiler owned this farm about eighteen years, and in the mean time added several small tracts to it, and then sold it to his son, Jacob, the present owner. He also built a new barn there, but his son, Jacob, built the new house. The old house was a frame building weather boarded and whitewashed.

CAMP GROUNDS.

We must remember that this is historic ground; that this

ground was trod by Washington and his army after their defeat in the battle of Germantown, October 4, 1777. It was here they encamped nearly two weeks after their retreat. My grandfather, who moved on the adjacent farm twenty-three years after this event occurred, told me when I was a boy, where Joel Cassel's house now stands there then stood a large walnut tree, and under that tree a scaffold was erected by order of Washington and his officers, and a deserter, as we find elsewhere, whose name was John Farndon, was hung there. About one-fourth of a mile north-east from the Towamencin meeting house is a field which is called the Camp ground, but that field is not alone the Camp ground. At that time the land was all covered with timber from that field till up to the line of Lower Salford, and a portion of the army was encamped on the northwest side of the Skippack creek.

This is historic ground; all around the reminiscences of the past loom up before us. One hundred and ten years ago the defeated American army was encamped on these fields. The battle of Germantown had been fought in the morning of the fourth of October, 1777, resulting disastrously to the cause of American freedom. Defeat and retreat were the result of that battle with the loss of officers and eminent men They came up here to the Skippack and brought their dead with them. A marble shaft in the "Silent city" shows their place of repose. They also brought their wounded men up here and utilized the meeting house for a hospital. Some people took pity on them and rendered them all the assistance they could, but some were afraid of the soldiers. There is a field near by that is called the Camp ground, but the Camp ground is much larger than that. Not only was the

camp in Towamencin, but also on the fields of Lower Salford, on the farms of Jacob Bossart and his neighbor, Mr. Getz, on the fields north-west of the Skippack. They dropped many bullets on the fields and lost some of their accountrements of war. Many years these people remembered those things and related them to their children; the latter also found bullets in the furrows and wondered how they had got there. My grandfather lived on the farm adjacent thereto, but he moved there after those days. He delighted to tell his grandchildren the stories which he had been told, and he knew that those things had occurred. On the farm of Jacob Bossart, who lived here in those days, near the line of Towamencin, where the house of Joel Cassel now stands, an execution took place. John Farndon, who had served awhile in the American army, deserted his post, went over and joined himself to the British. But erelong he was caught and condemned by a council of war on the American side, and here on the gallows he paid the penalty for it. He was considered a traitor, and death was his doom.

Over the fields to the east in Towamencin, where the house of Jacob K. Detweiler stands, was then the hospitable home of Frederick Wampole, and there were the headquarters of the Head of the Army—General Washington and his secretary, 110 years ago. These are historic fields and these are historic homes that sheltered those brave men. To the west in Salford, where Stauffers lived, numerous officers abode: it was their boarding place.

Could we but view the scenes as they were then, how many hospitable homes we'd find with sick and wounded men? But we pass on to relate of George Anders, a Schwenkfelder, who lived in those days at the place where Mrs. Krupp is now liv-

ing, an anecdote related by Abraham H. Cassel. Mr. Anders had two very fine horses, and so also had his friend, Abraham Kriebel. These horses and their new wagon were pressed into service for the transportation of goods for the army. Anders felt such tender concern for his horses, fearing they might not be well treated, that he hardly could let them be taken; he therefore offered his son, Abraham, who then was eighteen, to go with the horses, to act as their groom and their driver, and the offer of course was accepted. He went and he hauled for the army, and gained the confidence of the superior officer. Sometimes he was sent away out with his team a considerable distance away. On one occasion, moreover, he thought he would take advantage of their confidence and attempted to make his escape with the team. Not daring to go home for fear of arrest he made his way up toward Goshenhoppen, where many of the Schwenkfelders lived, to his uncle George Kriebel. But he was pursued and overtaken before he got there by the superintendent of transport, when, behold, he was nigh in a scrape; but feigning and pleading he had lost his way, he became bewildered not knowing which way he was going, by which he escaped or averted the punishment, due and only was ordered to return, which he did and then remained in their service until the army was gone and he no longer was needed. He then received an honorable discharge and came home with the horses and wagon all right. The horses were sleek and well fed, which showed what attention they had. Go out on this road, from Franconiaville eastward, where lived in those times one Johannes Jantz or John Johnson, a well-to-do farmer and friend of the free, who favored the cause of American

freedom. Of him is related, by Abraham H. Cassel, that he was a notable man, a patriot brave and devoted. As the sick and the wounded were brought to the farmers and quartered among them, he opened his house and admitted the sick in large numbers, besides boarding ten soldiers of the regular army. Mr. Johnson and Fannie, his daughter, assisted a while in attending the sick who had the camp fever, but they also took sick, and Mr. Johnson soon died. Fannie suffered a long time beyond any description. Under those circumstances their house presented a real lazaretto, a home of affliction and suffering; the father was dead and the daughter was helpless. In these trying times an alarm was sounded, though falsely, "The British were coming," which spread consternation among the inhabitants, who picked up their sick and they fled, with all the doctors around, in the direction of Oley. Fannie was stiff, her joints would not bend, but others constructed a litter on which they carried her after the doctors for medical treatment, from beyond Franconiaville, up into Oley. She suffered a long time but recovered against all expectations, and many years later she died of a cancer in her face, at her home near Doylestown. Another short incident I will relate, which occurred while the army was here. A party of soldiers with wagons and horses, perhaps Abraham Anders' team, went all the way up to the Butterthal, in Berks county, where some of the Mennonites lived, for chickens and turkeys for themselves, and grain for their horses. They came to the house of Christian Moyer just about noon, where there was a wedding, and the table was ready prepared for the guest who all were ready to eat. But this unwelcome soldier-party then sat down to eat, and ate, and ate the things away. After-

ward they went out and caught up the chickens, and loaded their wagons therewith and with grain. Such is the story still related by their descendants.

HANS GEORGE DELP.

We have already in connection with other sketches given the history of Hans George Delp and his farm on the Skippack; as also of George Heckler and his sons who owned it afterward. We will, however, go over it once more very briefly. The land now belongs to Benjamin Ruth, George Heckler and Isaac Rosenberger. It appears very probable that this land was occupied by a squatter who claimed some right there, or pretended he wanted to buy it, before it was purchased by Mr. Delp. We find that in 1743 Nicholas Uplinger had some kind of contract or understanding with Casper Wister for it, but afterwards failed to do so. It therefore remained for Hans George Delp, who came to Pennsylvania in 1738, to become the owner thereof. His conveyance was granted by Casper Wister and wife, November 14, 1746, for 146 acres and ten perches of land, and the price paid was £94. The tract was 114 perches wide along the line of Towamencin, and 205 perches long north-westward, extending up to the line between George Heckler and Jacob Landes. The first house stood on the west side of Benjamin Ruth's barn. In 1751 George Delp purchased a farm containing also 146 acres of Samuel Moyer, in Franconia, which is now owned by Jacob Frederick and others. It appears that soon after purchasing this farm he removed to that place and left the farm on the Skippack to be occupied and operated by his oldest son, Samuel. He run this farm in 1776 and was rated for 140 acres of land, three horses and four cows. But it appears that some time afterward George Delp made articles

of agreement between himself and his son, John, by which the latter was to have this farm for £825.

After the death of George Delp, his executors, George Delp, of Hilltown, Abraham Delp, of Franconia, and Isaac Derstein, of Rockhill, conveyed the property legally to John Delp, May 21, 1791, for the price mentioned in the agreement. He then owned this farm nine years, and then sold it to George Heckler, for £1500, April 21, 1800, gaining £675, or $1800, by the transaction. The land was then divided between his two sons, George and Peter Heckler. The latter received the old homestead, while George built for himself a new house where his son, George, who is now quite an old man, is still living. George Heckler, father of the present owner, lived here until the time of his death, which occurred March 10, 1855, when he was nearly eighty-six years old. Peter owned his farm and resided on it until the time of his death, which occurred January 22, 1847, when he was in the 77th year of his age. He built the first house where Isaac Rosenberger now lives, about the the year 1826, for his son, Henry, who in later years removed to Whiteside county, Illinois, and died there some years later. His descendants are now scattered over the Western States, but most of them are in Kansas. Letters of administration on the estate of Peter Heckler were granted to his son, Abraham, who sold the farm, at public sale, to Martin Rosenberger, and gave a conveyance in April, 1848. Mr. Rosenberger then owned this farm thirty-two years or until 1880, when he and his wife conveyed and confirmed it to Benjamin Ruth, the present owner. The main part of the house was built by Peter Heckler, but an addition was built to it and the whole was remodeled

by Mr. Rosenberger. The barn was also rebuilt by the latter.

GEORGE HOFFMAN.

The farm now owned by John Halteman was long known as the Heydrick farm. The farm on the west side now belonging to Jacob S. Landes was separated from the Heydrick farm by Cadwalader Foulke, surveyor, September 22d, 1826. It then contained forty-four acres and forty perches. This farm belonged to Enos Wambold for many years.

This tract of land was purchased from Casper Wister and and wife, Catharine, March 25, 1735, by George Hoffman and his brother, Ba'thasar. They both are represented as residents of Salford at that time already, though they came to Pennsylvania only the year previous. The boundaries were thus described at that time: beginning at a stone, a corner; thence by other lands of Caspar Wistar south-west 118 perches to a stone in a line of Henry Slingluff's land—this "other land of Caspar Wistar" was afterward purchased by Hans George Delp—thence by the said Slingluff's land north-west 104 perches to an other stone; thence by a line of marked trees—afterward Gabriel Shuler's land—north-east 118 perches to a stone; then by a line of marked trees south-east 104 perches to the place of beginning; containing seventy-six acres and 112 perches of land. A patent was granted to George Hoffman for this tract, February 28, 1745. On the fourth of January, 1745, Balthasar Hoffman granted a moiety, whereby he sold all his right and interest in the above land to his brother, George. On the 23d of December, 1743, George Hoffman purchased a narrow strip of land from Caspar Wistar and wife containing twenty-five acres and twenty perches. The bounds are thus given: beginning at a post in line of Jacob Krupp's land at a corner of

Gabriel Shuler's land—somewhere about the residence of the late Lewis Haycock—then extending along the said Krupp's land north-east twenty perches to a post at a corner of George Kriebel's land; thence by the same south-east 201 perches to a post in a line of Jacob Moyer's land; thence by the same south-west twenty perches to a corner of land intended to be granted to Nicholas Uplinger; thence by the same, by other land of George Hoffman, and by the aforesaid Gabriel Shuler's land, respectively, north-west 201 perches to the place of beginning. All these distances were a little longer when they were resurveyed by Cadwalader Foulke in 1826. It appears at that date December, 1743, it was intended to convey the tract afterward purchased by Hans George Delp, to Nicholas Uplinger, who about a year and a half later purchased the Binder farm in Harleysville from Henry Myer. Time passed on and George Hoffman became an old man. He was married to Barbara Seipt, and it appears they had three children; one son, Balthasar, Jr., who died December 20, 1754. Susanna, wife of Balthaser Krause, and a daughter, wife of George Heydrick. We do not exactly understand the record given of the Schwenkfelder genealogy in this respect. Apparently her name was Eve, wife of George Heydrick, mentioned on page 11 of their Record. On November 29, 1760, Barbara, wife of George Hoffman, died. He also was old and well stricken in years, and on the 10th of March, 1762, he and his son-in-law, George Heydrick, entered into lengthy articles of agreement, in which Hoffman sets forth that he is old, and through long sickness may make much trouble, that the agreement is made in order that he might not suffer, but might receive the proper and necessary atten-

tion. In the first place he reserved his right in the house and on the land; afterward provision was made in case he would make much trouble in long sickness, that his other son-in-law, Balthasar Krause, must also help to bear the expense. But it appears after making this agreement they concluded it would be better if George Heydrick would buy the farm, and consequently the two tracts containing 101 acres and 132 perches were conveyed to him, May 2, 1762. George Hoffman lived yet three years longer, and died June 29, 1765, in the 81st year of his age. The above mentioned George Heydrick and Eve, his wife, mentioned on page 11 of the Record, had no issue; he died soon after George Hoffman, on September 5, 1765. It appears the farm was afterwards purchased by another George Heydrick, son of Baithasar Heydrich, who lived there many years. (I must acknowledge that it is not clear to me who this George Heydrick, son-in-law of George Hoffman, was, neither can I say that he had no issue.)

Abraham H. Cassel, the antiquarian, has picked up and preserved an old receipt, which reads as follows:

"Ich Georg Heydrich habe eyn par schu gesolt und gehittebt vor die Anna Maria (Zergin) kost 0. 4. 0. und das geld da vor habe ich von Jacob Bossert empfangen. GEORG HEYDRICH."

The receipt has no date to it, but it must perhaps have been written in 1776 when Jacob Bossart was one of the overseers of the poor, while Anna Maria Zerg had to be kept by the township.

George Heydrick was married to Rosina Krauss. They had five children, but one of them died young. During the time they owned this farm, they purchased yet fifty acres and ten perches of land more, which increased their farm to the full number of 151 acres and 141 perches. On the first of April, 1806, George Heydrick and his

wife, Rosina, transferred their landed estate containing all the above number of acres to their son, George, who was twice married, and the second time to Susanna, daughter of David Kriebel, in 1804. His first wife had been Susanna Yeakel. His father, George Heydrick, Sr., died here October 29, 1828, aged ninety-one years and six months. George Heydrick, Jr., still added more acres to his already large tract; but through some misfortune, the pressure of the times and the depreciation in the value of property, he was obliged to make an assignment to his brother, Baltzer Heydrick and John S. Boorse, for the benefit of his creditors, May 25, 1826. These assignees, by their surveyor, Cadwalader Foulke, then cut off the farm now belonging to Jacob S. Landes, and sold it separately. It was a hard time then and many people failed. But through the judicious management of the assignees in selling off some portions and parcels of land the homestead containing 100 acres of land was preserved for the family. Afterward the times became better and George Heydrick again became a successful man. He raised a large family of children and died, October 9, 1855, aged eighty years, six months and two days. The farm then belonged to his two sons, George and Samuel, and lastly to the latter who died there about the last of October, 1879, when two years later the farm was sold to John Halteman, the present owner.

REV. BALTHASAR HOFFMAN.

The following sketch of the life of the Rev. Balthaser Hoffman, a resident of Lower Salford, was written by son, Christopher, in German in 1777, and was translated by Abraham H. Cassel for the use of M. Auge, Esq., in his work, "The Prominent Men of Montgomery County, Pa." We make use of it because it belongs to the

history of this township, and is as follows:

"Among the Schwenkfelders who arrived in Pennsylvania in the year 1734, Balthaser Hoffman, who settled in Lower Salford Township, was one of the most eminent.

"He was born in Harpersdorf, Principality of Leignitz, in Silesia, Austria. By his own testimony he was born of 'worthy poor and lowly parents,' and was first reared to the trade of a weaver, occasionally working as a daylaborer in the summer. He early embraced the religious principles of Caspar Schwenkfeld. He was tall in stature, lean in person, and 'after his fiftieth year wore an entire white head.' From his earliest youth he seems to have been very industrious and desirous of acquiring truth. By assiduous labor he soon gained a knowledge of Latin, Greek and Hebrew, and by help of good books set himself to study the Sacred Scriptures, for which his knowledge of the languages gave him great facilities. He was very diligent in acquainting himself with Christian teachings around him, and especially of those promulgated by Caspar Schwenkfeld.

"In 1719 the Reformation had made great progress in Silesia, and the Catholic Church in 1721 sent a mission to convert the people back to the old faith, at first laboring with them mildly, but soon after committing great acts of violence. The persecuted people in 1721, therefore, resolved to send an embassy to the Emperor, to implore toleration. Of this body Balthaser was one. During this effort which lasted five years, Hoffman delivered no less than seventeen memorials to the royal ruler. At last, however, in 1726, the mission turned the heart of the sovereign still more against the reformed people, so that Balthaser dared not show himself by day, but had to return by night, taking with him

to Ober Lausitz his wife and two daughters. Even there he was not safe, but fled again with his gray-haired father from Vienna by way of Prague to Lausitz, and obtained the protection of Count Ziegendorf. Here he resided eight years, during which time a son was born to him. As toleration was not even here assured he with many others, concluded to emigrate to Pennsylvania, where William Penn had promised religious freedom to all. This resolution was formed in 1734, and on September 22d of that year, with his wife and family, 'under the guidance of the good Lord they arrived at Philadelphia, and offered praise to God for his graciousness to them.' He was especially grateful that no evil had befallen them on the way, and further that kind friends in Holland had sent himself over free and without cost to him. He did not remain in the city, but removed to the country, 'where, too, the grace of God provided for him and his.' During all this time he continued a diligent Bible reader and Christian teacher to those around him. Here he freely worshipped God according to the dictates of his conscience. Upon the death of the Rev. George Weiss, the first minister of the Schwenkfelders in America, in 1740, Hoffman was chosen to officiate in his stead. Not being constitutionally strong in body, he several times withdrew, especially in 1749, when he became afflicted on his breast and debilitated in his power of speech and of singing. Still, demands were made upon him, particularly for outdoor services, as catechizing the children; but by the help of God he labored till the weight of years made it impossible. Nor did he tire in his many duties. His Sabbath forenoons, afternoons or evenings, were employed in writing, reading and singing. He left many letters and writings on Holy

Scripture and Christian teachings, prompted by the questions of others as well as of his own conceptions, thus at once rendering service to his brethren in time to come. He also left hymns. Of these writings we have a catalogue. 'To him idleness and the want of truth were of great moment, seeing how God's gift of freedom was misapplied.'

"The closing years of Balthasar Hoffman's life were spent in a small room, spinning; yet daily would he read, write, sing and pray. And as he had long been blessed with bodily health, so God protected him against much and severe sickness in his last days. Gradually, however, his sanctified spirit was loosened from its earthly tabernacle, and nature sank year by year, till December 21, 1774, when he was attacked with vertigo and increasing debility, and on July 11, 1775, in his 89th year, he passed peacefully away. His wife, Ursula, died May 15, 1767, aged 80 years, and both lie buried in the Schwenkfelder burying-ground belonging to the congregation in Lower Salford. Balthasar Hoffman and wife left three children, Anna, Rosina and Christopher, who succeeded his father as minister of the society; his children were all born in Europe. All three were married, but the son left no issue. There are descendants of the daughters, however, to the fifth and sixth generation.

'He remained an acceptable minister of the Schwenkfelders from the death of Weiss in 1740 until the time of his death. He resided on a tract of land by the east side of the Skippack creek, two miles west of Franconia village, now owned by Henry Derstein. He was a man of eminent widom and piety, and left behind him a catalogue of his writings, embracing fifty-eight tracts all on theology and practical religion, besides eighty-three letters on various kindred topics.

"Christopher Hoffman, the father of Balthasar, died in Saxony, under the protection of Count Zinzendorf; he, together with his son Balthasar Hoffrichter, constituted the embassy to the court of Charles VI, at Vienna.

"Christopher Hoffman, son of Balthazar, married Rosanna, daughter of George Dresher, but they had no children. She died July 3, 1794, aged 70 years and 9 months. He died January 29, 1804, aged 76 years. He also was a minister of the Schwenkfelder denomination and lived where his father had lived.

The old conveyances belonging to the farm of Henry Derstein, formerly the farm of Balthazar Hoffman, have been lost, but we see by the boundaries of adjacent farms that in 1735, the said farm belonged to Wandal Hover, who, we are inclined to believe, was a squatter who occupied the place some time then already, but how long he lived there we can not say. In 1743 this farm belonged to one Jacob Moyer and it was probably from him it was purchased by Balthazar Hoffman a few years later. The latter died there July 11, 1775, in the 89th year of his age, and after him his son, Christopher, owned the farm yet sixteen years. The boundaries might be thus described by beginning at a corner in the middle of a public road on the line of Towamencin township, then extending in the middle of another public road north-west across the Skippack creek up along near the residence of Isaac Rosenberger till about midway between his residence and the road above 183 perches, then north-east forty-nine perches to a corner, then south-east forty-four perches to a corner, then north-east thirty-two perches to a corner, then south-east across the Skippack along the middle of a public road 139 perches to a corner in the other public road on the

line of Towamencin, then along the middle of the said road eighty-one perches to the place of beginning, containing eighty-three acres and 135 perches. Christopher Hoffman and his wife, Rosina, conveyed the said farm to Abraham Krieble, May 27, 1791. He held this farm twenty-four years, and then he and his wife, Rosina, conveyed the same to Jesse Lewis, for £2047, April 3, 1815. It was then bounded by lands of Peter Heckler, George Heydrick and Jeremiah Krieble, in Lower Salford, and Abraham Anders and Jacob Wampole, of Towamencin. Jesse Lewis and wife Susanna, sold ten acres and eighteen perches of land on the north-west side of the Skippack, to William Keaton, for $809, April 1, 1818. The line run down in the said stream sixty-five perches to a corner on the east side of the stream. Then on April 1, 1820, Jesse Lewis and wife sold the messuage and all that land on the east side of the Skippack, containing about fifty acres, to James Yocum. He owned that farm twenty-one years and then sold off a tract along the road, on the township line, to Frederick Wampole, and the farm with buildings and improvements, he sold to his son-in-law, Benjamin Hendricks, April 1, 1841. The latter owned this farm until he died here of smallpox, January 11, 1856. After his death letters of administration were granted to his brother-in-law, Samuel Gergas, who sold the farm at public sale to Caroline, wife of Henry V. Allebach, daughter of said deceased. Four or five years later, Henry Allebach and wife sold the farm to her brother, James Y. Hendricks. After owning it several years he made public sale for the farm in the autumn of 1866, and sold it to Henry Derstein, the present owner, giving possession April 1, 1867, when he and his wife granted a conveyance.

This John Clemmer mentioned here on page 395 is the same John Clemmer brother to Abraham Clemmer on page 192. Valentine Clemmer a persecuted Mennonite bishop (page 192-3) had a son whose name is not remembered, and he had three sons, named Valentine, Abraham and John. Valentine purchased a farm in New Britain in 1790. Abraham purchased a farm in Franconia in and John purchased a farm in Lower Salford in 1800. Their former residence was in Lowamencin. See page 191.

Wm Keaton was married to Margaret Lewis, they were poor and after some years moved to Philadelphia where they both died. He died July 27, 1864, aged 71 years, 2 months and 29 days. His wife Margaret died October 11, 1871, aged 71 years, 8 months and 16 days. They are buried at the Mennonite meeting house in Lowamencin.

Christian Clemmer father-in-law to Abraham Delp whose wife Barbara was born in 1761

see page 164

As stated, Jesse Lewis and wife sold ten acres and eighteen perches on the north-west side of the Skippack creek to William Keaton, in 1818, now the property of George Metz. Keaton owned this land only three years, but made no improvements on it. He and his wife, Margaret, then sold the same to Baltzer Heydrick, for $755.66. March 31, 1721; losing $53.33 on the land, which he probably made up by cutting away timber. Baltzer Heydrick then put buildings here, and in two years sold the same to John Klemmer, the elder, for $1066.-67, April 22, 1823. The latter owned this lot only two years, when he and his wife, Margaret, conveyed the same to the late Harman Metz, for $933, April 2, 1825. Mr. Metz owned this small farm forty-five years, but in the meantime added yet nine acres to it. Then on March 31, 1870, he conveyed all his real estate containing nineteen acres and 135 perches to his only son, George Metz, the present owner, who has since added about twenty-eight acres to it, making in all about forty-eight acres now contained in his farm.

On the Towamencin side of this farm the land belonged to Abraham Tennis from the year 1709 until about 1730 when a portion of it was purchased by Henry Fry, who is represented in the tax list of 1734 as the owner of fifty acres. He undoubtedly built the first house where Jesse Lewis now lives, and a small mill for wool carding on that stream down opposite the residence of Mrs. Krupp. The dam laying up in the forks of the stream and the ditch to convey the water to this mill, are still there. After him George Anders owned this farm. He built that house which now belongs to Mrs. Krupp, for his son, Abraham Anders. After the death of George Anders his farm was divided, and Abraham owned this part of it. After Abraham

Anders the farm belonged to his son-in-law, Christopher Meschter, who, after his death left it to his son, the late Rev. George Meschter, who sold it some years ago and bought the adjoining farm, which had formerly belonged to Frederick Wampole, where he then lived and died, June 29, 1887.

GEORGE YEAKEL.

The emigration of the Schwenkfelders to Pennsylvania in 1734, several years after Caspar Wistar put his large tract into market, gave the families of that denomination an opportunity to purchase lands near to each other and thus to form a community of members of their own sect.

The farm now belonging to Isaac Kriebel was purchased from Caspar Wistar, and a conveyance dated February 20, 1739, was granted to George Jackel—the name is now Yeakel—it was put on record at the same time. His tract contained 170 acres and included all the east corner of the tract, bordering on the line of Towamencin township 168 perches, which was also the eastern corner of the township of Lower Salford. On the north-east the line of his land was also the line of Franconia township and his line extended up to the Skippack creek, which we here find by the name of Kiculd. The said stream was the northwestern boundary of Mr. Yeakel's land. On the north-east side of his land in Franconia township was the noted "Seven Hundred," though the tract originally contained 810 acres, and was purchased already in 1714; it was still owned by a Wilson family of Ireland as late as 1790.

It appears this George Yeakel was a son of Balthasar and Regina Yeakel. The mother, a widow, with her children, George, Susanna, Anna, Maria and Rosina, came to Pennsylvania in the ship St. Andrew in company with a large number

of Schwenkfelders and others, in all 263 souls, in 1734. It also appears that the widow and children must have had some money, and probably lived on this land several years before the conveyances were made, for on February 15, 1739, five days before the deed was written, the mother, Regina Yeakel and others, children or guardians, signed a release to George Yeakel in order that the conveyance could be granted to him.

Two years later, May 21, 1741, George Yeakel married Susanna Wagner. See "Genealogical Record of Schwenkfelders," page 22. A little over a year later, June 16, 1742, his wife, Susanna, died leaving an infant four months old which died a year afterward. One month later, July 19, George Yeakel made his last will and testament in writing and therein appointed his brother-in-law, Dr. Abraham Wagner, and Caspar Krieble his executors, and five days later, July 24, 1742, he died, being yet a young man. Think of the sorrow and misfortune of those days. Those two executors divided this great tract into two parts and sold them. The one part containing the buildings and improvements was 101 perches wide by 168 perches long forming an oblong square containing 106 acres of land, which they sold and conveyed to Christopher Wiegner, December 23, 1743, and the deed was recorded. His mother, Regina Yeakel, and her remaining children were the heirs, and had to give their signatures to the conveyance. Afterward on February 28, 1745, Christopher Wiegner had his land confirmed to him by a patent though a patent had been granted to Casper Wister for the whole tract of 1073 acres, November 5, 1734. The other tract containing sixty-four acres, those executors and heirs sold to George Krieble. Christopher Wiegner owned this farm twen-

ty four years, and then he and his wife, Ann, for the love and affection which they bore to their son, Christopher, Jr., and £450 in money, conveyed it to him on April 24, 1769. It was not long after he owned the property until he and his wife, Catharina, sold about forty-six acres of it to William Yocum, a brother to my great-grandfather, James Yocum, and the remainder which was fifty-nine acres and 140 perches with buildings and improvements, they sold to William Tennis, June, 14, 1776, for £320. Christopher Wiegner, Jr., then removed to Springfield township, Bucks county. Mr. Tennis owned this farm tweaty-eight years and then he and his wife, Mary, sold the same property to Jeremiah Krieble and granted a conveyance dated March 31, 1804. He purchased back again twelve acres of the other tract which the executors of George Yeakel, deceased, had sold to George Krieble, besides that he owned a large plantation on the north-west side of the Skippack. He built that stone house in 1806, which is still standing there, used for a dwelling and appears to be real good yet with several additions built to it. Part of the old log-house is also still standing uninhabited, and does not appear to be quite poor yet. When the present dwelling was built part of the old log-house was taken away and turned into a stable so that only part of it remains there. Jeremiah Krieble's wife died in 1808, and on April 2, 1829, he conveyed this farm containing seventy-one acres to his oldest son, Benjamin, for $2726.50. The burying ground and meeting house of the Schwenkfelder denomination in Lower Salford are located in this farm. It appears they commenced to bury there and continued on so sixty or seventy years until Jeremiah Krieble gave a deed for a burying ground, containing sixty square

perches of land, November 3, 1812. I will have more to say of this matter when I come to write about the churches in the township.

Benjamin Krieble lived here, and died here in 1844. He had an only son, Samuel, who fell heir to the whole estate; him many of us remember, he died only a few years ago. He also had an only surviving son and heir of his whole estate named Isaac, the present owner of the property.

The other tract which Christopher Wiegner, Jr., and wife, Catharine, sold to William Yocum about the year 1775, was owned by him many years, or until about 1827, when it was sold to Peter Moyer. The conveyances are lost, but we learn so much from the conveyances of adjacent farms. We are informed that in the latter part of the last century the barn on that farm was struck by lightning and burnt away.

Peter Moyer lived there many years and died there an old man, some years ago. After him his son, Jonas Moyer, owned the farm, but he died a few years ago, and the farm now belongs to Isaac Freed.

Those sixty-four acres of land which Dr. Abraham Wagner and Casper Kriebel, executors of the estate of George Yeakel, deceased, sold to George Kriebel in 1743, were located along the Skippack, and on the north-east side along Franconia township. George Krieble put the first house on the farm now belonging to the widow Landes, and owned the property thirty-two years, but in the meantime purchased an additional tract of twenty-four acres and a half to it. His wife having died he conveyed both tracts to his son, George, Jr., on January 20, 1776. On May 23, 1789, George Kriebel, Jr., purchased from Robert Clibborn Wilson, of Ireland, by his attorney, Benjamin Wilson,

forty-one acres and 137 perches, part of the "Seven Hundred," in Franconia township, adjoining his other land. Twelve acres along the Skippack at the lower end of his tract he and his wife sold to Jeremiah Kriebel, June 13, 1789. He was married to Esther Wiegner, and while cleaning out his well, September 14, 1792, a stone fell from the top down on his head killing him instantly. He left an only son and heir, whose name was Christopher, at that time only thirteen years of age, and he in time became a doctor of medicine, for so he is represented in the conveyance. On March 31, 1813, this Dr. Christopher Kriebel and his wife, Rachel, conveyed this plantation containing 118 acres of land with buildings and improvements to two speculators, named Joseph Smith, of Towaencin, and James White, of Gwynedd. One year later, April 1, 1814, Joseph Smith and wife, Mary, and James White and his wife, Elizabeth, conveyed seventy-seven and a half acres of the said tract with buildings and improvements to Henry Hendricks. He owned this farm nearly eight years, but eventually failed and on December 3, 1821, he and his wife, Barbara, made an assignment to David Allebach and Jesse Lewis. These assignees pushed the matter through pretty sharply and on the following 6th of April, 1822, sold and conveyed this farm to Dillman Ziegler, of Lower Salford. He owned this farm nearly seven years, and on November 17th, 1828, he and his wife, Catharine, sold this plantation still containing seventy-seven and a half acres to their son-in-law, George Hunsicker, who was a son of Valentine Hunsicker, of Upper Salford. The latter owned this farm twenty-eight years and built a new house and new barn here, but in the meantime sold off several tracts of land reducing the farm

to forty-eight acres and 140 preches, which he sold to Jacob Landes and gave a conveyance dated April 9, 1857. On the 28th of February, 1872, the large barn was burnt away. As it was night when it occurred the people were all asleep, and a high wind prevailing nothing could be saved. Eleven cows, two horses, two hogs, a large number of chickens and all the machinery and farming implements were consumed by the devouring element.

CHRISTOPHER KRIEBLE.

The early settlers generally built their log houses near a spring or stream of water, and this, we see, was the case all along the Skippack. The first house built on the farm of David M. Cassel was put there by Christopher Krieble, Sr., in 1735. It appears by a draft made some years later, showing the divisions, distances, boundaries and names of purchasers of Casper Wister's great tract, that the farm now belonging to Abraham D. Delp was cut out of the tract before the farm was surveyed to Christopher Krieble, and this farm from its irregular shape, at first, appears to have been a remnant of land containing 155 acres. It also appears by the conveyance as if the farm above now belonging to Mr. Delp, had been occupied by a man whose name was John Kember, when the land was surveyed, though there is no allusion made to him in the first conveyance of Mr. Delp's farm. Christopher Krieble purchased this land soon after his arrival in 1734, and received his conveyance bearing date March 26, 1735. The price paid for those 150 acres was £78. The boundaries of the land are thus given; "beginning at a corner of Wandal Hover's land, then by the same south-west thirty-two perches to a corner, then by the same and other land of the said Casper Wister north-west 240 perches to a corner, then north-

east thirty-two perches to a corner, then south-east by land of John Kember 130 perches to a corner of the said Kember's land, then continueing by the said Kember's land north forty-three degrees east 170 perches to a post in a line of Thomas Wilson or James Dickenson's land, then by the same nineteen and a half perches to the Kiould called Skippack, then down by several courses of the same Kiould till it intersects the line of the said Wandal Hover, then by the said Hover's land, north-west sixteen and a half perches to the place of beginning." Christopher Krieble did not live in his new home many years, for on the 14th of May, 1741, he died intestate leaving issue—two sons and two daughters.

His estate was not settled up until nine years afterward, when his son, George Kriebel, and daughters, Anna, wife of Christopher Dresher, and Mary, wife of Dr. Abraham Wagner, signed a release to their brother, Christopher Kriebel, Jr., and granted the farm to him, June 6, 1750. He was not the Dr. Christopher Kriebel who lived on the other side of the Skippack some years later, but he was a minister in the Schwenkfelder denomination and an uncle to the doctor's father. He owned this farm thirty-four years and then conveyed 125 acres with buildings and improvements to his son, Jeremiah Kriebel, May 6, 1784. The latter purchased twelve acres of land along the Skippack from George Kriebel and his wife, Esther, for which a conveyance was granted bearing date June 13, 1789. He also purchased the farm at that time containing fifty-nine acres, from William Tennis and wife ten acres of woodland situated in the "Seven Hundred," in Franconia township. It was the same ten acres of land which William Tennis had purchased from Robert Clibborn

Wilson, of Ireland, by his attorney, Benjamin Wilson, April 10, 1790. Jeremiah Kriebel was a man of influence and respectability; he owned over 200 acres of land and two messuages many years. The messuage and farm which he had purchased from William Tennis in 1803, he sold to his oldest son, Benjamin, in 1829, as already related in a former sketch. The farm now belonging to Jonas Moyer was separated from the main farm for his son, Joseph Kriebel, and the old home or main farm fell to the lot of his youngest son, Samuel. Jeremiah Krieble died in 1842, in the eighty-eighth year of his age. He had only three sons—those above named. After the death of Joseph Kriebel, in 1853, his farm was purchased by Enos Hunsperger, who was the owner thereof about twenty years when he sold the same to Joseph Hackman, who owned it until 1884, when he sold the property to Mr. Moyer, the present owner.

Samuel Kriebel owned this farm until 1869, when he sold the premises comprising sixty-one acres of land with buildings and improvements to David M. Cassel, the present owner.

The Pleasant Valley Creamery, a large stone building, was located and built here in 1881.

Samuel Krieble had four sons, Joseph, Jeremiah, Samuel and Aaron; Jeremiah was a blacksmith and Samuel was a wheelwright, and here the manufacture of wagons and carriages was carried on about forty years ago or longer. In 1749 Jeremiah Krieble built that house on the farm recently owned and occupied by Levi Clemmer, and carried on the blacksmith business at that place several years, when he died there, and Isaac Ruth became the owner; he too carried on the same business some years till his wife died; he afterward sold the property to John Goshow, who owned it

until the time of his death, in 1880. It was afterward purchased by Jacob Landes, and after his death, in 1881, it was bought by his son-in-law, Levi Clemmer.

The small farm belonging to Jesse Dettra and Samuel Erb was part of Samuel Krieble's farm, and was separated from it about the year 1835. A log house was purchased from John Alderfer, who then lived on the farm now belonging to Abraham D. Delp, and was hauled down to the place where it still is, by Amos Hagey, whose wife drowned herself in the Skippack some years ago. Twenty-one acres were then laid off to the farm but ten or eleven acres more have since been added thereto. It will thus be seen that this is not an old place.

CASPER AND GEORGE HEYDRICK.

When the township of Franconia was cut off from the territory of Salford, in 1731, it appears they cut nearly a square tract containing thirty-two acres and eighty-eight perches of land out of Casper Wister's great tract which he had purchased only the previous year. Those thirty-two acres Casper Wister sold to Andrew Swartz about the same time he sold the other tracts. The said tract being in Franconia township I have not looked up its history, but can say that it still belongs to the Swartz family, and is now, with other lands, owned by John Swartz.

It was quite a mistake that no corner stones were put into the ground to mark the angles of the township where the line was set off with a jog in it, when it was surveyed. At the present day no one seems to know where the exact limits of the township are, excepting at those places where the lines run along the roads.

Cutting out the aforesaid tract gave the next plantation an irregular shape around the two sides thereof. But so it

was done to cut off a farm containing 106 acres and 57 perches for two brothers named Casper and George Heydrick, who came to Pennsylvania with other Schwenkfelders in 1734. Soon after their arrival they came into Salford and purchased the aforesaid number of acres from Casper Wister, for £68. 16s. and received a conveyance dated March 26, 1735. On the north-east side in Franconia it was then bounded by land of James Robinson, and on the south-east and south-west by land of Christopher Kriebel. The said conveyance was not acknowledged at the time it was granted, and was neglected until Casper and George Heydrick both were dead, but fortunately one witness was still living and that was Rev. Balthasar Hoffman, who acknowledged the deed by affirmation before John Bull, Esq., for the two deceased brothers, November 2, 1765. Casper Heydrick died intestate and without issue, April 13, 1761, at the advanced age of eighty years. His wife having died in 1742. His only lawful heir was his brother, George, who became the owner of the whole estate. But then George Heydrick, who had no issue, made his last will and testament in writing dated March 6, 1765, and on the following 5th of September he died, leaving a widow for whom in his will he provided a dower and some personal property, and the remainder of all his estate he devised to his nephew, Abraham Heydrick, in the following words: "I give, grant and devise all and every of my remaining estate unto my nephew, Abraham Heydrick, of Towamencin, taylor," &c. This George Heydrick apparently must have been the man who is mentioned on page 11 in the Schwenkfelder's "Genealogical Record," and the George Heydrick, son-in-law, of George Hoffman, mentioned in a pre-

vious sketch, apparently must have been a man of whom no notice is taken in the "Genealogical Record," and if so, the date of his death as it is there given must be incorrect and unknown. Though it possibly may have been the same man. The widow Heydrick afterward sold out and released all her right and claim of the dower in the land to the legatee, Abraham Heydrick. The latter was married to Catharine Weber, but soon after having possession of the farm he died intestate and without issue.

The author of the "Genealogical Record of the Schwenkfelders" takes no notice of this Abraham Heydrick, nor of his his father, and who the latter was we can not say. Letters of administration on the estate were then granted to the widow Catharine Heydrick and her brother, Jacob Weber. These administrators then gave lawful notice to all the heirs in Germany, by an instrument of writing which was drawn up and signed by all the heirs as follows, namely: Christopher Berner, Godfred Berner, John George Schultz, Rosina Schultz, Christopher Meschter, Mary Meschter, Jeremiah Renner, Susanna Renner, Anna Regina Ambert, John Christopher Shubert, Jeremiah Beer, Melcher Groh, John Christopher Groh, Abraham Groh, and David Groh, Jeremiah Geissler, Regina Geissler, Godfred Fritch, Anna Maria Fritch, Godfred Geissler and Regina Geissler; all these heirs by their instrument of writing of a firm release, dated at Armenrah in Court in Silecia, in Germany, May 14, 1769 for the consideration therein mentioned, did grant and confirm to the said Catharine Heydrick all right, share, portion and claim of land of the said Abraham Heydrick, deceased, in Pennsylvania, to her and to her heirs forever The said release was written in the German language and was certified by his

Royal Prussian Majesty's Commissioned Provincial Counseller, of Goldberg, and George Redern in the Principality of Liegnitz, signed by John Gotlob Bœrner, Bailiff, of the Hereditary Jurisdiction, and five jurati. It was then entered and recommended in the Chamber of Judicature at Armenruh, May 14, 1769. The whole instrument signed and delivered at the same time by a true and sworn translation in English was recorded in Philadelphia, &c. By a little reflection it will be seen what an immense amount of trouble and anxiety it must have caused the widow, what expense was incurred, and through what hands the paper had to pass until no one else could claim her property. As she was considered a rich young widow it was not long until she had an offer of marriage which she accepted, though this time not with a Schwenkfelder, but with a Quaker, whose name was Joseph Lukens. He was a saddler by trade and lived in Whitemarsh township. By his intermarriage he also obtained to a certain extent a right to her property, and then they together sold the farm, still of the same size and extent as at first, to Andrew Kriebel, of Lower Salford, for £480, May 27, 1772.

The latter owned this farm about fifty years and then sold it to Benjamin Alderfer of Lower Salford for $5300, August 12, 1822. Here this property ceased to be a Schwenkfelder farm. The latter owned these premises nearly four years when he and his wife, Elizabeth transferred the same to their son, John Alderfer, for $5300, April 26, 1826. It was still the same 106 acres and fifty-seven perches.

John Alderfer died here March 3, 1843, though he owned this farm seventeen years and his family after his death owned it yet six years, in the meantime it was reduced to

eighty acres. Apparently, letters of administration had been granted to Benjamin G. Alderfer, Jr., or else he had taken the farm at the appraisement, for he sold the same to John Kratz, of Lower Salford, for $4240, and gave a conveyance in his name dated April 9, 1849, subject to the annual payment of the interest on a dower of $1731.33 at five per cent. Seven years later on April 4, 1856, John Kratz and wife, Margaret, sold and conveyed this same property to Peter Hunsperger, still subject to the same dower. The latter owned and occupied this farm twelve years when he and his wife, Margaret, sold the same messuage and eighty acres of land to Abraham D. Delp, and gave a conveyance dated April 3, 1868, still subject to the same dower and interest. But the widow of John Alderfer, whose maiden name was Margaret Grater, and who afterward married Joseph Detweiler, died in 1873, and the dower was paid out, so that Mr. Delp now has a clear title.

We have now gone over the whole township from farm to farm and have told our readers all we could about each farm and family so far as we thought it was interesting, and even around the boarders of the township we tried to turn up some interesting matters. We have yet a few more things to relate which we wish to preserve from the destruction of Time, and then we will close up our history.

TAX LIST OF 1734.

We will now present our readers with a reliable list of names of settlers in the township in 1734, or before, as as follows: Gerhart Clemens, Jacob Clemens, John Clemens, Hans Michael Wagley, Valentine Kratz, Hans Ulrich Bergey, Jacob Engar, Hans George Boocher, Nicholas Holdeman, Galley Hefflefinger, John Lederach, Andrew Lederach, Diehman Kolb, Hans

Clemmer, Hans Reiff, Jacob Reiff, George Reiff, John Scholl, John Vincent Meyer, Jacob Hoffman, Gabriel Shuler, John Johnson, Christian Stauffer, John Isaac Kline, Henry Ruth, Christian Allebach, Jacob Price, John Henry Snyder, Christian Moyer, Hans Meyer, Samuel Meyer, Christian Croll, Henry Slingluff, Andrew Swartz and Claus Uplinger. Of these John Sholl and Dielman Kolb undoubtedly were the first, while Jacob Enger and Hans George Boocher do not appear to have lived on their lands.

When our forefathers came to these bosky shores they settled down in the forest, in great privation, and cleared away the timber. They endured inconceivable hardships and often suffered for want of food and clothing. They sometimes became sick but the physicians were few and far between. Tools of all kinds, farming implements, cattle, horses and other domestic animals of all kinds were scarce and hard to get. The tools and farming implements were heavy, unhandy and rudely made things, and those who had to handle them had to tug and toil early and late to make a living. They did not indulge in luxuries, fineries and superfluities were kept at a distance. Wages were low, money was scarce and hard to get. Much could be said of the hardships, the privations, the suffering and want some of them endured, but we will now pass on and give our readers a list of the tax-payers in the time of the Revolution.

ASSESSMENT OF LOWER SALFORD,

1776.

We give credit to the researches of William J. Buck, the historian, for the following:

Jacob Reiff, Jr., assessor, and William Gergas, collector. Rudolph Harley, 260 acres, 4 horses and 8 cows; Jacob Grubb, 130 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Harman Achey, 45 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Gabriel Kline, 150 a., 1 servant, 3 horses, 5 c.; Jacob Alderfer, 1 h., 3 c.; Isaac Kratz, 2 h., 2 c.; Valentine Kratz, 150 a., 2 h., 4 c.; William Gergas, 150 a.,

3 h., 5 c.; Abraham Clemens, 250 a., 4 h., 7 c.; Christian Bergey, 150 a., 5 h., 7 c.; Christian Halteman, 130 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Isaac Markley, 125 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Henry Hefflefinger, 180 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Jacob Hefflefinger, 1 h., 2 c.; Godshalk Godshalk, 150 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Andrew Ziegler, 320 a., 1 h., 2 c., Dillman Ziegler, 220 a., 4 h. 6 c.; Henry Lederach, 132 a., 2 h., 6 c.; Jacob Clemens, 150 a., 2 h., 6 c.; Christopher Dickenshied, 100 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Frederick Dickenshied, 32 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Nicholas Schwenk, Smith, 150 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Daniel Price, 345 a., 4 h., 8 c.; John Johnson, Jr., 2 h., 5 c.; Nicholas Johnson, deceased, estate, 150 acres; Gabriel Shuler, Jr., 190 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Rudolph Harley, Jr., 3 h., 6 c., Andrew Ziegler, Jr., 3 h., 6 c.; John Smith, Miller, 1 h., 3 c.; George Schwenk,——; Frederick Alderfer, miller, 490 a., 3 h., 3 c., and a grist mill; Peter Freed, 290 a., 1 servant 3 h., 7 c.; John Freed, 100 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Garret Staffer, 193 a., 2 h., 6 c.; Jacob Shoemaker, 141 a., 2 h., 1 c., a cripple; Jacob Shoemaker, Jr., 2 c.; Henry Cassel, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Jacob Reiff, George Reiff, 200 a., 1 servant, 4 h., 6 c., Jacob Reiff, Jr., 275 a., 2 negroes, 5 h., 9., 30 acres in Towamencin, 8 children; Philip Stong, 178 a., 3 h., 6 c., eleven children; Mathias Stauffer, 80 a., 1 h., 4 c.; Joseph Evans, 2 c.; Christian Moyer, 232 a., 5 h., 7 c.; Christian Stauffer, 38 a., 1 c., Bernard Getz, 120 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Jacob Bossart, 120 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Valentine Haake, (Hagey.) 1 c.; Samuel Delp, 140 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Christopher Hoffman, 83 a., 2 h., 4 c.; William Yocum, 50 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Christopher Krieble, 125 a., 3 h., 5 c., Andrew Krieble, 106 a., 2 h., 6 c.; George Krieble 125 a., 2 h., 5 c.; George Heydrick, 100 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Michael Ziegler, 3 h., 4 c.; Garret Clemens, 135 a., 3 h., 6 c.; Abraham Alderfer, 1 h., 2 c.; Paul Knapper, 50 a., 1 h., 3 c.; John Conrad, 1 c.; Henry Hopple, 2.; Henry Reary, Christian Dull, John Schneider. SINGLE MEN.—Yellis Cassel, Henry Weirman, Abraham Gargas, Abraham Bergey, William Gerges, Gerhart Clemens, John Price, Jacob Harley, Frederick Leichtner, Abraham Kriebel, Abraham Grubb and Joseph Alderfer.

In 1776 there were sixty-four tax-payers and twelve single men in the township. In 1887 there were 530 tax-payers in the township, and 370 votes were polled at the election. The average number of deaths per year since 1880 is twenty. In 1776 there were 134 horses and 240 cows assessed in the township, and in 1887 there were 540 horses and 993 cattle that were taxed, besides a number of horses and cattle under four years old which were not assessed. The assessor in 1887 was James B. Shisler. Constable and collector of taxes, William Detweiler.

We can not give our readers a definite idea of how things

were managed in the Colonial times, for the country was new yet and there was much timber. There were then only a few public roads, but private roads led through the woods and sometimes across a farm so that people could go to any place. In the summer time, horses, cattle, sheep and hogs were turned out into the woods to pick up their living there. Hogs and sheep became fat on acorns and received very little grain. All the grass that grew in the meadows was turned into hay for winter use. No grass was raised in the fields in those days. People did not know that they could raise a crop of grass, and no grass seed was sown. Neither did they know how to improve their land. In the beginning of this century when some people began to raise grass and a heavy sod on their fields, others objected to it on the ground that it was too hard on the horses to plow it down. Horses, cattle and sheep were generally marked and bells were put on them when they were turned out. These animals often became lost, but search was then made for them when they did not return again at evening. Hogs seldom lost themselves, but sheep often, for they were sometimes chased by dogs. Whole flocks were sometimes destroyed by dogs, and a sheep dog was generally as free as a bird to be shot.

In the winter season farmers generally stood in their barns threshing out their grain with the flail. They did not have threshing machines nor any other machinery. Young people of our time have no idea how our forefathers plagued themselves for a scanty living.

A certain writer describing the old time customs says: "Prior to the American Revolution every colonial farmhouse and every blacksmith shop was a manufactory, for every thing was literally manufactured, that

is, made by hand. The blacksmith hammered out axes, hoes, forks, spades, plowshares, scythes and nails. A tailoress went from house to house to make up the winter clothing, and was followed by the shoemaker. The farmer prepared the leather from skins which had lain in the vat for a year, and his wife made ready the cloth. Spinning wheels buzzed from morning till night. Skeins of woolen and linen yarn hung on the walls of every house. Seated on the loom-seat the best woman of the family plied shuttle and treadles. weaving blankets, sheets, table cloths, towels, bed curtains, window curtains, flannels, and cloth for garments.

"Every woman in the household manufactured something. The aged grandmother spun flax with the little wheel, the youngest daughter carded wool, and the oldest, if the men were busy, hatcheled flax. It was hand work that did it, and every hand did what it could best do. The women whose "work was never done," not only carded, spun and wove, but they milked the cows, made butter, bread and cheese, soap and candles, cooked the food, did the washing, and in harvest raked hay, pulled flax, and dug potatoes.

The neighbor who happened in for an afternoon's gossip brought her work along. The mother patched or knitted, as she rested by the fireside, or quartered apples for the children to "string" and hang in the morning in festoons on the sunny outside walls. All were busy—always busy."

We must remember that many of our forefathers fled from religious intolerance and the rod of persecution, from their homes in Europe, to the wild shores of the Delaware. They first came to Germantown. from whence they went out into the forests and settled down, under many privations and inconveniences. where they

could enjoy religious liberty. Freedom of conscience and the liberty of worshiping God according to the dictates thereof were the boons which they craved more than anything else. The Quakers were English and settled mostly in the lower districts, but the settlers of this township were Germans. They were mostly composed of Mennonites, Dunkards and Schwenkfelders of those belonging to the peace sects or non-combatant persuasions. But with them came also the Lutherans and Reformed. These five sects settled in Lower Salford and never molested each other.

George Rawlinson, A. M., author of "The Seven Great Monarchies of the Ancient Eastern World," and of "The Religions of the Ancient World," in the perface to the latter work says: "During the twenty-one years that I have occupied that chair (in the University of Oxford) I have continually felt more and more that the real history of nations is bound up with the history of their religions, and that, unless these are carefully studied and accurately known, the inner life of nations is not apprehended, nor is their history understood." Therefore, since it is certainly so, that the real history of a people is the history of their religion, we will now give our readers yet a sketch of history of each of the four places of worship in Lower Salford, though there are only three of those places yet remaining in the township. We will commence with a sketch of

THE SKIPPACK REFORMED CHURCH.

It was a source of joy to me when I discovered that old manuscript mentioned in the sketch of Jacob Hoffman, page 113, in the shape of a return from the court of Philadelphia in regard to a proposed road from Isaac Kleins to Felix Good's mill. In that manuscript was the date of 1736, and the church was mentioned, the

road which was wanted was represented as a necessity for the accommodation of people worshiping in that house, proving that the edifice was standing, the church apparently in a flourishing condition and the date thereof given. But when was that building erected? This is a fair question and one that has often been asked. In reply I should say, it could not have been built before 1728, because the land was owned by Samuel Powel, of the city of Philadelphia. until near the close of the year 1727. Apparently it was not an expensive structure, being built of logs the expense of its erection was not very high. It was built by Jacob Reiff, the elder, see page 99 to 109. It stood near the house now standing there, recently built by Dillman Souder. When I was a lad of ten summers the place where the church had stood was strewn by numerous small stones, being the refuse of that demolished edifice. Near what was then Christian Allebach's barn stood an old log house, the cellar of which has since been utilized for an icehouse. About the year 1840, or 1841, Christian Allebach took down that log house and removed the material out on the church ground, where he had a cellar dug, and built a house, the first story of logs and the second story was frame. I have since been informed by members of the Reiff family that the log house which I have mentioned had been built of material which had been in the church building. Jesse Anderson moved into the new house on the old church ground and soon afterward he was in want of a bakeoven, he then began to dig the foundation for it, when, lo and behold! he dug into the foundation of the old church and took out nearly enough stones to build his bakeoven. If he had then taken the measurement of the foundation the exact size of the church

might have been ascertained. There appears to be no lack of evidence to prove that the church was organized in 1727, and Mr. Dotterer has told us who the officers of the church were, namely: Wendel Keiber, Gerhart Indehaven, Christopher Schmidt and George Reiff. The latter we know was a resident of Salford, and Gerhart Indehoffen was one of the first settlers of Perkiomen township. Some one may perhaps ask, did you not furnish William J. Buck, the historian, who wrote out the history of Lower Salford in the late "History of Montgomery County," with the names of Jacob Deemer, Michael Hillegass, Peter Hillegass, Jost Schmidt, Henrich Weller, Jacob Siegel and William Rœrich, as trustees of Reiff's Church? In answer, I say no, I did not! for I knew there were no such people with those names in these parts. Mr. Dotterer has shown us plainly under the head of Jacob Reiff, on page 102, that those men were the elders of the Philadelphia Reformed church, and not those of Skippack. The whole mistake had been made by Rev. Henry Harbaugh, who misplaced the officials of the Philadelphia church to the Skippack, and other who have written about the Skippack church since, have copied from him. We know for a certainly that George Reiff was a resident of Lower Salford, Dewalt Young, of Upper Salford, and Gerhart Indehaven, of Perkiomen township, while those other men were strangers in these parts.

In all probability this was the first organized Reformed church in Pennsylvania, and if the building was erected in 1728, it was undoubtedly the first edifice of the kind in this State. It is also very probable that they had preaching in their private houses by Rev. John Philip Boehm before they made an effort to organize themselves, for he was well acquainted with

the people in these parts, and owned the land on which part of the village of Harleysville is built. Considering these things, and his intimacy with Gabriel Shuler and others of his denomination, it appears very probable that he might have been the first preacher in this church, and left no record of it; while two others, Rev. George Michael Weiss and Rev. John Henry Goetshy have left their names here.

Surrounded at that time already by the Mennonite element shrewd men could not fail to have seen that this church was not located at the right place, and that was probably one reason why it failed. According to tradition the failure was all owing to Jacob Reiff, the elder, for not giving a deed to the church for the land. Fifty acres of land had been paid for out of the church fund, because the church had more money than was needed to pay for the building. It appears that the graveyard continued to be used as a burial place till near the close of the last century, because some of the Stongs who lived on the farm now belonging to Abraham B. Alderfer are buried there. I used to hear that some of the Stongs in Worcester came up with their axes, took the liberty to cut down trees, and enclosed the graveyard with a fence, or repaired the fence in the beginning of this century. But in 1838, when I became acquainted there, the fence was only along one side of the graveyard. All the gravestones with names on were soap stones, but there were many rough stones without names, and some of them sunk down to be visible only at the top. As long as the land belonged to the Reiffs and to Allebach the graveyard was not desecrated. But after that house was built there seventeen acres of land were sold to Jesse Anderson, but the graveyard was not sold, it was reserved in the deed.

Mr. Anderson raised a family of boys who did not have much to do as they grew up, and they frequently tried their strength in pulling up of those stones. But in December, 1859, the property was sold by the sheriff, John W. Stouffer, to George Nuss, a German, who cleaned out the graveyard and plowed it around. Several neighbors remonstrated with him against it, but he told them he had bought it all and he would farm it all. About the year 1877, Rev. Schultz and Dr. Weiser visited the place when Jacob Clemens owned the land; they procured a long stone which they took there and ordered him to plant it in the middle of the graveyard. As Mr. Clemens did not know where the graveyard had been, he sent for Jesse Anderson, who came, and, with the assistance of several neighbors, they dug down into a grave and planted that stone to mark the place where the graveyard had been. But after Dillman Souder had bought the property he dug out the stone and took it away. So there is nothing there now to mark the place where the dead repose.

There has been considerably written by different individuals of late years about the Skippack Reformed church and the incidents connected therewith. They all go over nearly the same ground.

The following is from the *Guardian*, a monthly magazine, published in Philadelphia, by the Reformed Church Publication Board, July 1883:

"It has been usual to regard the Skippack Church, in Montgomery county, as the oldest Reformed Church in Pennsylvania—though a very plausable plea has been advanced in favor of the church in Philadelphia—and to fix the date of its organization as 1726 or 1727; but it is now apparent that the true date must be at a somewhat earlier period. From an

interesting memorial addressed, in 1728 to the Classis of Amsterdam by the Reformed Churches, at Falkner Swamp, Skippack and Whitemarsh, it appears that Rev. John Philip Boehm began preaching at these places at least as early as 1720. Within ten years of this date, at least a dozen churches were organized, and it seems impossible to ascribe priority to any one of them.

"It may be well in this connection to give a brief sketch of the career of the ministers who were first in the field, and who may therefore be regarded as the pioneers of the Reformed Churches in Pennsylvania.

"John Philip Boehm had been a schoolmaster in the city of Worms, and having been persecuted by the Roman Catholics, had come to America, not later than 1720. In the momorial to which we had already referred, it is stated that shortly after his arrival he had been appointed 'Reader,' and had served in this capacity for five years. Then he was requested to assume the office of pastor, and accepted the call, as there was no one at hand who was so well qualified for the office. At this time, it is said, his congregations were not aware of the irregularity of their course. For three years Boehm thus continued to serve the churches at Falkner Swamp, Skippack and Whitemarsh without regular ordination. In the meantime, however, the Rev. George Michael Weis had arrived in Pennsylvania, and, as the latter was recognized as a regularly ordained minister, there was a division among the people. Some adhered to their former pastor, while others insisted that he had no right to preach. Boehm himself was convinced of the irregularity of his course, and in 1728, his three congregations requested the Dutch Reformed Churches of New York to ordain him. The matter was referred to the

Classis of Amsterdam, and after considerable delay the request was granted, and Boehm was ordained, in New York, on the 23rd of November, 1729, by Rev. Henricus Boel and Gualterius Du Bois. His ecclesiastical acts were also ratified and declared valid.

"From this time forth Boehm continued in the most intimate relations with the Classis of Amsterdam, and Weis stood by his side as a faithful coadjutor.

"Father Boehm resided in Whitpain township, Montgomery county, and is said to have preached for some time in his own house. From this assembly sprang the congregation which is now known as 'Boehm's Church. He also preached in Philadelphia, and made extensive missionary journeys. While preaching in Philadelphia, he became involved in a controversy with Count Zinzendorf, and published several pamphlets. Though not highly educated, Mr. Boehm was not ignorant, as was sometimes intimated by his apponents. *

* * When Schlatter arrived, he found in him a faithful assistant, and he always refers to him with the most profound respect. He died suddenly, on May 1st, 1749, after having on the previous day administered the Holy Supper to the Egypt congregation.

"George Michael Weis was born about A. D., 1700, at Stebbeck in the valley of the Neckar, in Germany, and died about 1763, at New Goshenhoppen, Montgomery county, Pa. He was educated at Heidelburg, and came to America as an ordained minister in 1727, in company with about four hundred colonists, most of whom apper to have been members of the Reformed Church. He organized the Reformed Church of Philadelphia, and also preached at Skippack. In 1729, he returned to Holland, in company with an Elder named

Reiff, to collect funds for church-building. * * * On his return to America, he settled in the colony of New York, where he labored till 1746. In that year he removed to Pennsylvania, and took charge of the congregation at New Goshenhoppen and Great Swamp where he labored until his death. A full account of his career may be found in Dr. Weiser's recent monograph.

"John Henry Goetschius (or Goetschy) was a native of Zurich, in Switzerland. Concerning his personal history, we know very little. He was, however, careful to provide the churches which he served with congregational records, in which his name has been preserved

"In 1731, he was pastor at New Goshenhoppen, and entered on the title page of the church record, the names of the congregations which he simultaneously served, viz: Skippack, Old Goshenhoppen, New Goshenhoppen, Swamp, Saucon, Egypt, Macedonia, Mosilem, Oley, Bern and Tulpehocken. What an enormous diocese! In the region which he occupied, there are at present, probably, more than fifty Reformed ministers."

We have no record of any other ministers preaching in Reiff's Church, but these statements of these ministers are given because they were connected therewith.

THE MENNONITE CHURCH.

There has been considerable inquiry by historians heretofore concerning the age of the Mennonite church in Salford, but without a satisfactory answer. We will now tell our readers that the deed given by Henry Ruth and his wife, Modlena, for ten acres of land, forty perches square, was made by lease and release, dated October the 4th and 5th, 1738. It was done in in this way: Henry Ruth and his wife of Salford of the one part granted to Henry Funk, Dielman Kolb, Christian Moyer,

Jr., and Abraham Reiff of the other part. Of the second part they all were residents of Franconia excepting Dielman Kolb, who was of Salford. This shows us who the first officials of the church were and the time when the congregation was organized. The two first were ministers, the first a bishop, Moyer and Reiff were deacons or "*Vorsteher*." By referring to the first conveyance we find that there was a building of some kind called "a tenement" on the land when it was purchased, but whether this "tenement" was turned into a meeting house, or whether it was used as the residences of the sexton, and a new meeting was built, we do not find. But we see, however, that in all probability the first meeting house was erected here late in the Autumn of 1738. It appears that these four officials were considered as the trustees and that either they or the church were not satisfied that they should have the deed for the land with the meeting house thereon all in their name and power. Consequently they had Robert Jones, of Worcester, to write a kind of conveyance called a DECLARATION in which those four officials, Henry Funk, Dielman Kolb, Christian Moyer, Jr., and Abraham Reiff are represented as of the first part conveying it to the church as the second part, represented by Nicholas Holdeman, Christian Allebaugh, Henry Ruth, Hans Ulrich Bergey, Hans Wyerman, Garret Clemens, Feltus Kratz, Jacob Clemens, John Clemens, Hans Reiff, and Frederick Alderfer, of Salford; Christian Meyer, Sr., Andrew Swartz, Henry Clemmer, Jacob Hackman, Ulrich Hunts Berger and Jacob Landes, of Franconia, of the other part.

It then recites that these ten acres of land by the boundaries therein described had been conveyed by Henry Ruth and his wife to Henry Funk, Dielmam

Kolb, Christian Meyer, Jr., and Abraham Reiff for the erection thereof of a "house and place of religious meetings to and for the people called Baptists or Mennonists within the said township of Salford." It is further stated that they shall permit and suffer the said piece of land whereon the said house is erected "to be and remain a burial place for the burying and interring of all such persons as the people * * * of the said Baptists or Mennonists shall allow of and for and to no other use whatever." This manuscript is signed and sealed on the right hand by Henry Funk and Dielman Kolb, and on the left by Christian Meyer and Abraham Reiff in German. It is witnessed by John Isaac Klein and Robert Jones.

It appears probable that matters went on right well and the church prospered until 1762, or before that time, when it was considered to be of advantage to their church to organize a congregation in Franconia, then called Indian Field, and afterward to convey back to the congregation in Salford a DECLARATION OF TRUST, from the two surviving trustees residing in Franconia, to two others of Salford. Therefore a declaration of trust nearly similar to the first, was signed on March 25, 1763, conveying without any consideration the land and meeting house in Salford "to the congregation called Mennonists or Menista in trust to Christian Funk of Franconia and Jacob Clemens of Lower Salford." This manuscript commences thus: "To ALL CHRISTIAN PEOPLE to whom these present shall come: We Christian Moyer of Franconia and Abraham Reiff of Salford * * * send greeting:" &c.

It then gives a statement of matters, going over the deed from Henry Ruth and wife to those four officials in 1738, and the DECLARATION to the congregation as already stated, and

emphatically declares that the house erected on this ground is "for a meeting house and a school house," and the ground is for a "place to bury the dead and for no other purpose." It recites that Henry Funk and Dielman Kolb are dead and that Christian Moyer and Abraham Reiff are the two survivors. It is then signed on the right hand side by Christian Moyer and Abraham Reiff, and on the left side by three witnesses; the name of the first is illegible, the other two are John Detweiler and Martin Bechtel, of Franconia, all in German.

In this last manuscript Abraham Reiff is represented as a resident of Salford, which was undoubtedly a mistake, but it is very probable that he removed from Franconia about that time, for if I am not very much mistaken he was the same Abraham Reiff who died in North Coventry township, Chester county, in 1763, leaving back a large family; for in his will which was probated December 7, 1763, he mentioned his grand-son, Ulrich Huntshberger, and his wife's brother, Jacob Moyer, showing that his wife had been Barbara Moyer, which all corresponds with the names of residents of Franconia. His sons were Isaac, Christian and Abraham; his daughters, Franica, Anna, Barbara and Elizabeth, and a son-in-law whose name was Michael Sentzenich.

Leaving this matter we will again turn our attention to the meeting house lot. It has been mentioned that it is asserted in the DECLARATION OF TRUST that the house shall be for a meeting house and a school house. If we will now turn back to the "History of Harleysville," on page 7, we will find that nearly all those names appearing in the first Declaration appear also with others in that company of twenty-seven men who purchased the lot in Harleysville, in 1758, where Dr. R. K. Keel-

er now lives. Let us now suppose that the first meeting house was only small and was inconvenient for a school house, and after using it some time for that purpose, they came to the conclusion that it would be better to have a house especially for a school, and therefore bought the lot in Harleysville. But as the congregation increased the first meeting house became too small to hold its members, and about the year 1770 it became necessary to take it down and to build it larger. It appears that the first meeting house stood on the east side of the graveyard, but the second stood very near the present site.

The second meeting house had two apartments, one for worship and the other for a school room. After the new meeting house was built with a school room in it, the school was taken into the meeting house, and the school house and lot in Harleysville were no longer needed for that purpose, and therefore the survivors of the company sold the latter premises in April, 1771. The school room in the meeting house was then used for that purpose until 1842, when an octagon school house was built, which stood there until 1883, when a larger and more commodious building was erected. Of the teachers who taught here we will speak in a sketch under the head of "Education." The present meeting house, 45 by 55 feet in dimensions, one story high, built of stone in 1850, is nicely located on elevated ground with plenty of open space around on which are built lengthy rows of sheds, for the protection of horses from the inclemency of the weather. The house and yard are nicely shaded with trees planted there, and the graveyard is walled in on three sides. The walks are covered with gravel, the gates and hitching places are kept in order, and things in general have the

appearance of good management. The services are still conducted in the Germrn language, though the time is not far distant when they will find it necessary to have their services in both German and English. The church is in a flourishing condition and members are added every year. They have not been troubled by any schism since the separation of Christian Funk and his adherents over a hundred years ago. The present ministers are Isaac Clemens, Henry S. Bower and Jacob C. Moyer. The ministers in the past who officiated here were Henry Funk, Dielman Kolb, Andrew Ziegler, Christian Funk, Jacob Overholtzer, Christian Holdeman, Isaac Alderfer, John Bergey aud Jacob Kulp. There was one John Bergey, a minister, probably a son of Hans Ulrich Bergey, who probably served here also. See "Funk's Mirror." Christian Moyer, a son of Christian Moyer, Sr., was a minister who served at the "Plains." He was a brother to Henry Funk's wife, and an uncle to Christian Funk. See "Funk's Mirror," page 28, English edition. This thing should have been mentioned in the sketch of the Moyer family, but was accidently omitted.

The graveyard at this place is large, and many dead are buried here. The oldest tombstone to be found was erected to the memory of Ann, wife of Hans Reiff, dated 1741, and only the initials and the date are on it, but the stone was recently broken to pieces, which may soon be lost. The surnames on the stones, which we have arranged alphabetically, are as follows:—Alderfer, Allebach, Anderson, Anthony, Bean, Bealer, Benner, Bechtel, Bergey, Boger, Boorse, Boyer, Butterweck, Cassel, Clemens, Clemmer, Custer, Delp, Detweiler, Dettery, Eisenhart, Frederick, Freed, Gergas, Godschall, Groff, Greis, Halteman, Heckler, Hedrick, Hendricks,

Hoese, Haering, Hubler, Hunsperger, Johnson, Keely, Kinsey, Klein, Kolb, Kulp, Kratz, Krupp, Larkens, Landes, Lederach, Lower, Metz, Metzger, Markley, Moyer, Musselman, Neisz, Nyce, Oster, Ott, Overholtzer, Pannepacker, Richards, Ritter, Rife, Rosenberger, Saylor, Sauder, Shelley, Schaefer, Springer, Scholl, Schott, Sleifer, Snyder, Stiver, Strunk, Stoll, Stiefel, Schwenk, Stauffer, Schatz, Schlotterer, Schultz, Tyson, Trumbauer, Wambold, Weand, Weber, Weil, Weirman, Ziegler. The Alderfers are the most numerous. Besides those mentioned there are others who have only rough stones, some have initial on and some have nothing. Of those we can mention the Dickenshieds, De Haven, Humel and others.

THE BRETHREN OR DUNKARD CHURCH.

The Brethren or German Baptist—more generally known as Dunkard church, at Indian Creek, was for a long time a branch of the church in Germantown. At what time it was organized into a separate organization can not now be ascertained. For a long time meetings were held in private houses commencing probably so far back as 1723; for in that year the church in Germantown was organized, and Jacob Price, a minister, settled here already in 1720 or 1721. At what time the first meeting house was erected here is not exactly known, but it very probably was about the close of the last century. Or it might have been in 1806, about the time a deed was granted for the land, on which it was built. It is said the ground was donated to the church by Abraham Harley and John Price. The deed is dated May 1, 1806, and was conveyed in trust to Rudolph Harley, Samuel Harley, Ulrich Stauffer, Abraham Haempfer, George Reiff, George Price and Henry Price, in behalf of the church. The first meeting

house was a frame structure of only small dimensions, probably not over twenty or twenty-five feet square, but in consequence of the increase of the membership it became too small, and an addition was built to one end in 1830 making it a long but only narrow building. Afterward the congregation grew still larger, and members were added from time to time until 1851, when it was found necessary to take down the old building and the present stone structure thirty-eight by fifty-six feet, was erected. The present house of worship has a basement which is used for various purposes. Part of the audience room is fenced off by a board partition in a kind of folding doors which are closed in the winter season when the weather is cold and the congregations are small. A new tin roof was put on the whole building last summer. There is no graveyard be'onging to this meeting house, the rock being so near the surface as to render it impracticable. The Price's family burying ground is near by, and a great mistake was made in the first place when the first meeting house was built that it was not built to this graveyard, instead of hanging it on the hill here too near the road.

The congregation of Brethren in Hatfield, the congregation in Skippack, the one in Mingo in Upper Providence, and the one in Springfield, Bucks county, are offsprings of this church. Besides a meeting house and small congregration in Norristown, a meeting house and small congregation in Bethlehem, and a small congregation in Allentown were all offsprings of this church. In Bethlehem injudicious management has reduced the number to a few and in Norristown it is not much better.

The present ministers are William P. Nice, Henry A. Price, Jonas Harley and Jacob Boaz. The services are mostly

confined to the German language, and the old German hymn books, probably nearly a hundred years old, are still in use. While these things are so the rising generation is receiving an English education and sees no inducement to unite with the church. As a matter of history I must say that the church is waning in members, and the prospects for the future appear very gloomy. Much could be said if it were advisable. But others may not see it as I do. So far as known the ministers in the past have been Jacob Price, Peter Becker, John Price, William Price, Jacob Price, Samuel Harley, Benjamin Harley, and others belonging to adjoining districts. The ministers have all been farmers and retired farmers. The most noted among them were William Price and Samuel Harley. There is also a meeting house at the Harley graveyard in Franconia township, and one in Towamencin, where services are held on alternate Sundays. It is said the Harley burying ground was commenced in 1745, but the Price's burying ground was probably commenced as early as 1727. Both these burial places are now free for other people to bury their dead in. Besides the Prices who are buried here we find the following names who are nearly all connected with the Price family: as Boaz, Bustard, Detweiler, Hagey, Heckler, Jacobs, Kaemper, Keely, Kalhbaugh, Klein, Moyer, Nice, Reiff, Styer, Thomas and Weidner. Besides the Harleys, in their burying ground, we find the following names; Bechtel, Becker, Binder, Brey, Cassel, Corth, Cressman, Famel, Fronefield, Hengey, Hartman, Heckler, Johnson, Keyser, Kindig, Kline, Landes, Long, Moyer, Nice, Rudy, Shaddinger, Stauffer, Shisler, Shueck, Walters, Williams and Young.

THE SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH.

As we prefer the testimony of others we will here offer what William J. Buck has said of these people in his sketch of Lower Salford in the "History of Montgomery county," which is as follows:

"The congregation dates back to an early period, the members having settled around here probably in 1734, or soon after, for Mr. Weiss was formally made their minister in 1735, or the following year, in which capacity he served them until his death. He was succeeded by the Rev. Balthasar Hoffman, who remainded in charge till near his death, which took place in 1775, at the advanced age of eighty-nine years, and he is also buried here. Through the exertions of the Rev. Christopher Schultz a more complete organization of the church was effected, which went into operation in August, 1782. No edifice was expressly used by them for worship in the county until 1789; previously for this purpose the society assembled at private houses, and in the absence of a pastor the services were conducted by one of the members.

"There was a school-house at this place, erected in 1764, which was also used by the members for worship down to the erection of the present meeting-house, in 1869. The school was kept in operation through a fund of £750, Pennsylvania currency, raised by subscription, the interest of which was early applied for the purpose.

"During the French and Indian war the members settled around here raised by subscription the handsome sum of £260 in aid of the Friendly Association, to gain and preserve peace with the exasperated Indians on the frontiers. This paper was signed by forty-two persons, and is dated Lower Salford, November 13, 1756. They state therein 'that they

are a few families of a dispersed people from Silesia, who have always, under God's blessing, maintained themselves by the labor of their hands, having been forced to leave their estate behind.' The names of these subscribers are George Andrews, George Kriebel, Byer's Estate, George Heydrick, Balthasar Heydrick, Hans Heebner, George Hoffman, Christopher Heebner, David Heebner, George Heebner, Casper Heydrick, Melchior Hartranft, Christopher Hoffman, Balthasar Hoffman, Christopher Yeakle, Abraham Yeakle, Balthasar Yeakle, Casper Kriebel, Balthasar Krauss, Christopher Kriebel, Melchior Kriebel, Christopher Krauss, George Dresher, Christopher Dresher, Melchior Meister, Christopher Meister, David Meister, Christopher Neuman, Christopher George Scholtz, Gregorious Scholtz, David Scholtz, Reinwalt, Melchior Scholtz, George Scholtz, Jr., Christopher Scholtz, Casper Seipt, Johannes Yeakel, Christopher Yeakel, Maria Yeakle, Christopher Wagner, Hans Wiegner and Melchior Wiegner. These, no doubt, constituted the larger number of the denomination then residing within the present limits of the county to which it has in the past been almost confined. They are said to have become extinct now for some time in Europe. Hence the greater interest has been attached to their history here. They have always been a well disposed and industrious people, remarkable, according to their lately published "Genealogical Record,' for longevity."

In consequence of the continuous removal of members from this district, and the encroachment of other denominations, it has been regretted by some of their members that this meeting house in Lower Salford was built.

The following is taken from the "Genealogical Record" of the said society.

"George Weiss, the first minister of the society of Schwenkfelders in America, came to Pennsylvania, in 1734, with the colony, and settled in Lower Salford, then Philadelphia county. He was born in Harpersdorf, Lower Silesia, in Germany, in 1687. In 1720, when the Roman missionaries appeared in Silesia to convert the followers of Schwenkfeld to the Roman Catholic faith, George Weiss was selected on the part of the latter to write their confession of faith, or reply to the written questions of the missionaries. How well he performed this important task may be seen by reference to the 'Erlauterung,' page 85, and also page 341. 'Erlauterung fur Casper Schwenkfeld, und die Zugethanen, Sainer Lehre.' Printed in Tauer by Mullorn in 1771.—But the more these missionaries were worsted in argument, the more they had recourse to force; the result is well known. Weiss, with his wife and other friends, fled the country by nights in the month of April, 1726, leaving their properties in the hands of their persecutors; he came to Herrnhut in Saxony on the 5th of May. During his eight years' stay at Herrnhut he followed weaving and teaching We do know that Rev. Christopher Shultz, Sr., then quite a young lad, came to Weiss for instruction in languages, and that the warmest friendship and attachment existed between teacher and pupil during the remaining years of Weiss's lifetime. In a historical manuscript written by Rev. Balthaser Hoffman, 1750, compiled by Christopher Hoffman, 1771, we find that our pilgrim fathers on the eve of their departure for America appointed Weiss as a kind of leader or teacher in spiritual things for adults, as well as catechist for the young, there

on shipboard, which appointment he accepted and carried out; and that about a year and a quarter after arriving in America (December 5, 1735) Weiss was formally appointed the first Schwenkfelder minister of the Gospel and catechist in this country, and that he officiated in that capacity in an acceptable manner up to the time of his death, which occurred on his farm* on the Skippack creek, in Lower Salford, Montgomery county, on the 11th of March, 1740, in the fifty-third year of his age. His body lays buried at the meeting house near by, where a handsome stone has been erected to his memory. Rev. B. Hoffman writes that Weiss was married in 1715 to Anna Meschter, of Langenneudorf; that they had one child, a son who died when about a year old; that he also had a brother and a sister who both died young in Silesia; that shortly after their arrival in America he also lost his wife by death, and had her buried in the 'Pilgrims' Cemetery' at Philadelphia. Thus Weiss himself was the only remnant left of the family this side of the grave, and having the spiritual welfare of his disorganized and scattered flock at heart, he labored for them in season and out of season; but in time he became considerably disappointed in seeing no better results, and finding so much lukewarmness and worldly-mindness, etc., that during a spell of sickness which befell him in 1739, he was on the point of relinquishing his ministerial labors altogether; but with returning health, God gave him increased courage, and he kept on laboring in his Master's cause until within a few days of his unlooked for and early death.

*We do not find any allusion to his farm in any conveyance in the township of Lower Salford. He probably died at the residence of George Yeakle, on whose farm he was buried.

"On the 3d of March, 1740, he was at Goshenhoppen, where in the evening he for the last time met and instructed his catechumens; and on the following morning, although in feeble health, and only six days before his death, he preached for the last time to his congregated friends.

"A synopsis of Weiss's remarks on these occasions is given by Hoffman at the close of his interesting Manuscripts.

"Weiss was an example of unaffected piety, simplicity and fidelity, well versed in spiritual knowledge, earnest and impressive in his ministrations. He was a worthy son of the venerable Caspar Weiss, who, when quite old and weak in body, was called before the notorious Neander and compelled to stand in the latter's study for six long hours to give an account of his faith. See "Erlauterung," page 54, also page 59."

The ministers at this place who followed Weiss were Balthasar Hoffman, Christopher Hoffman, Christopher Krieble and the late George Meschter. The meeting house of this denomination is situated in the eastern corner of Lower Salford, between the Skippack creek and the line of Towamencin. The house, a neat one-story stone structure, erect- in 1869, is thirty-five by forty-six feet in dimensions, and is nicely situated on the edge of a forest, back from the public road about one hundred yards. The entrance thereto is made by a private road. The graveyard is small, containing sixty square perches, but is kept in a neat condition. The names on the tombstones are Faull, Fisher, Flin, Heydrick, Hoffman, Krieble, Meschter, Schneider, Weand, Weiss. The Kriebles are the most numerous, and some rough stones have no names. There are sheds at this place for fourteen horses.

The membership is very small and we doubt whether there are yet fourteen members in this vicinity, nearly all having moved away. We can not assign any special reason for the removal of members from this vicinity. The services are still conducted in the German language at this place. The Schwenkfelder society is divided into two districts, namely: the upper and the lower districts. The upper district has three meeting houses and three ministers, whose names are Joshua Shultz, Jacob Meschter and Oscar Krieble, who was recently called from Oberlin College, Ohio, to take charge of one of these churches. Their meeting houses are located—one at Kraussdale, Upper Hanover township, one in the Hosensack Valley, near Palm Station, in Upper Milford township, Lehigh county, and one in Washington township, Berks county. In the lower district their meeting houses are, one in Lower Salford, one in Towamencin and one in Worcester. Their ministers are Dr. George K. Meschter, William S. Anders and Edwin S. Anders. Their church in Worcester is in a flourishing condition. The meeting house was rebuilt a few years ago, with a basement for the Sunday school, making the whole building more convenient. Preaching in the English language has also been instituted so that services are held in both English and German, and the membership is increasing. In Towamencin where the German language still prevails the church appears to be standing still and making no progress. But here in Lower Salford the membership is too small to endure the encroaching influence of other denominations, and consequently is continually waning in numbers.

EDUCATIONAL.

Many of the early settlers who fled from persecution and oppression in Germany to the

wilds of Pennsylvania, were well educated adventurers. We might name quite a list of them, commencing with Francis Daniel Pastorious, but as their names are part of our country's history, and are already recorded on the scroll of fame, we will not extend our limits beyond our own vicinity, but rather confine ourselves to our own township. As the people of this district were mostly Germans their education, of course, was in the same language. Though there were no great savans among the early settlers of this township, there were still those who were reasonably well educated. Among we might mention Rev. George Weiss and Rev. Balthasar Hoffman in the Schwenkfelder denomination; Dielman Kolb and Henry Funk in the Mennonite denomination, and Jacob Reiff, the elder, in the Reformed church. We might also mention Gerhart Clemens who kept a diary, and some others who apparently had some education; but there were also quite a number who could not write their names. Even those who were well educated were obliged to work hard for a living.

One of the first school teachers in this vicinity was Christopher Dock. He appears to have been a man of some ability, and at first, it is said, taught in Germantown. He afterward taught in Skippack, undoubtedly in the Mennonite meeting house, for he was a member of said denomination. He also taught in the Mennonite meeting house in Salford, for, as we have shown you, it was used "for a house of worship and for a school house," besides, we find it also traditional that he taught here.

The following, credited to Edward Eggleston in *St. Nicholas*, has been going the rounds of the newspapers some time already, which we also copy because it relates to our township.

"A hundred and fifty years ago, among the German settlers of Pennsylvania, there was a remarkable old school master, whose name was Christopher Dock. For three days he taught school at little place called Skippack, and then for the next three days he taught at Salford. Whenever one of his younger scholars succeeded in learning his A B C, the good Christopher Dock required the father of his pupil to give his son a penny, and also asked his mother to cook two eggs for him for a treat in honor of his diligence. To poor children in a new country these were fine rewards. At various other points in his progress, an industrious child in one of Dock's school received a penny from his father and two eggs cooked by his mother. All this time he was not counted a member of the school, but only as on probation. The day on which a boy or girl began to read was the great day. If the pupil had been diligent in spelling, the master, on the morning of the first reading day, would give a ticket carefully written or illuminated with his own hand. This read: 'Industrious one penny.' This showed that the scholar was now really received into the school.

"There were no clocks or watches; the children came to school one after another, taking their places near the master, who sat writing. They spent their time reading out of the Testament until all were there. But every one who succeeded in reading his verse without mistake stopped reading, and came and sat at the writing table to write.

"The poor fellow who remained last on the bench was called the Lazy Scholar.

"The funniest of Dock's rewards was that which he gave to those who made no mistake in their lessons. He marked a large O with chalk on the hand of the perfect scholar. Fancy

what a time the boys and girls must have had trying to go home without rubbing out this O !"

Christopher Dock was also an author and poet, but all his work is in the German language. The most important and lengthy part thereof is an extensive treaties on school discipline, entitled "eine einfaltig und Grundlich abgefasste Schulordnung darinnen deutlich vorgestellt wird auf welche weise die Kinder nicht nur in denen in schulen gewohnlich bestens angebrachten Lehren, sondern auch in der Lehre der Gottseligkeit wohl unterrichtet werden mogen, aus liebe zu dem menschlichen geschlecht aufgesetzt durch den wohlerfahrenen und lang geubten Schulmeister Christoph Dock, Germantown, gedruckt und zu finden bie Christoph Sauer, 1770." The next is "Copia einer Schrift welche der Schulmeister Christoph Dock an seine nachlebende schuler zur Lehre und Vermahnung aus Liebe geschrieben hat." This was printed by Christopher Sauer about 1764. Then we have "Hundert nothige Sitten-Regel fur Kinder," with part 2nd, containing "Ein Hundert Christliche Lebens-Regel fur Kinder." Published by Christopher Sauer, 24 pp., 8vo. The first work written in 1750 is one of those very few works written and published in America during the colonial period treating on education. These works have been translated into English by Samuel W. Pannepacker, of Philadelphia, who also wrote his biography.

Christopher Dock's poetical works were first, "Zwei erbauliche Lieder." Printed by Michael Billmyer, Germantown, 1790. One of these two poems contains 22 stanzas of six lines each, and the other 24 stanzas of eight lines each, making altogether 324 lines. Besides we find the following seven hymns credited to him, some of which

are quite lengthy. The first line of each commencing thus:

1 Kommt, lieben Kinder, kommt herbey.
2 Ach Kommet her ihr Menschen Kinder.
3 Mein lebensfaden lauft zu ende.
4 Ach Kinder wollt ihr lieben.
5 Fromm seyn ist ein schatz der jugend.
6 An Gottes gnad und milden segen.
7 Allein of Gott setz dein vertrauen.

The first of these hymns contains 17 stanzas of four lines each; the second, 10 stanzas of six lines each; the third, 26 stanzas of six lines each; the fourth, 24 stanzas of eight lines each. The seventh also contains 24 stanzas of four lines each, but with the fifth and sixth I am not acquainted and can not say how many stanzas they contain. These hymns can be found in the old German hymn books.

We glean from Mr. Pannepacker's biography of Christopher Dock that he came to Pennsylvania about the year 1714; that in 1718, or perhaps earlier he opened a school on the Skippack, or near the Skippack, and continued to teach about ten years. Then he went to farming, and continued at that for ten years. But four summers he taught school in Germantown, in sessions of three months each. On the 28th of 9th month, 1735, he purchased 100 acres of land in Salford township, for £15, 10 s. (This land must have been in Upper Salford, for it was not in this township.) In 1738 he gave up farming and returned to teaching. He then opened two schools, one in Skippack and one in Salford where he taught three days in each week alternately. During the remainder of his life he devoted himself to teaching. He died in the autumn of 1771, and must have been an old man. During the latter years of his life he lived with Henry Cassel whose residence was near the Skippack road about a mile below Skippackville. He left two daughters, Margaret, who was married to Henry Strickers,

of Upper Salford, and Catharine, wife of Peter Janson. There are still some Stryckers in the upper end of the county, in Upper Hanover, if I mistake not.

It is understood that Christopher Dock taught school in the first meeting house in Salford, and probably also in the school house in Harleysville as we have shown in the history of that village. Who the teachers were who taught there after Dock we can not say. In the beginning of this century, probably about the years, 1812 or 1815, a man by name of Jacob Humel, who was also a member of their church, taught there in the school room in the meeting house, but how long he taught I can not say. His residence was on the Swamp creek in Marlborough township, but he died when about middle age and is buried in Salford. A son, John, is still living, near Linfield, in Limerick township. He had three daughters who were remembered by Abraham Alderfer in his will. See page 352. After him Christian Bergey, George Delp, grandfather of A. A. Delp, Jacob Musselman, Henry Johnson, father of Rev. Henry Johnson, of Skippack, Daniel Moyer, of Lower Salford, and William Godshalk taught there. Isaac Grimly, an old time school master, of Upper Salford, who is still living at an advanced age also taught here some winters. I forgot to mention John Boaz, grandfather of Rev. Jacob Boaz, of Upper Salford, who then lived in Abraham Alderfer's log house, now dilapidated, near the residence of Jacob Stoll, deceased, an old time school master who also taught here. He lived in that house on rent about 20 years, but did not teach at this place all the time.

About the year 1841, the people around here wishing to have some English taught, employed a schoolmaster by name

of Calendar, from the vicinity of Doylestown, who was quite English. He taught here two winters and boarded round among the people; the first term in the old meeting house, but then in 1842 the old octagon school house which was rebuilt only a few years ago, was built —and then Calendar taught in that house the first season. After him the teachers were Henry A. Hunsicker, Solomon Snyder, Abraham Rosenberger, William Johnson, A. A. Delp and others.

In a former sketch I told you about Snyder's school house on the turnpike, where William Keyser now lives, and of Abijah Miller who taught there, and of Enoch Miller, another old school master. That John Boaz also taught there no doubt can be entertained, but after that school house was turned into a dwelling Mr. Boaz taught in a shop on Morris' road, where Henry Becker now lives. The first house at that place stood further back in the garden, and Nancy King, who lived there many years, having been married to one John Alderfer, who was a weaver, built a stone shop which afterward stood there empty, and John Boaz taught school in that shop during the time she lived there, but as she could not agree with the scholars, the school had to be discontinued. He taught both English and German; by him I learned to read when I was seven years old, but not in that shop.

In 1839 the people of this township began to feel the want of school houses. Subscription lists were handed around in the autumn of that year, and money enough was raised to build a school house near the Little Branch creek by the Reiffs, Fryers, Hecklers and others on Reiff's land, and was known as Reiff's school house, but was sometimes facetiously called "Shitepoke Level." It stood farther down toward the Little Branch, than the

one now standing. It stood in what is now George Wiegner's field.

One was built by the Alderfers, and has since been known by that name, but for some time it was facetiously called "Musk-rat Hall," by which name it is also still known.

The other was built mostly by the Zieglers. It stood on the Skippack road about a half mile below Lederachville on land then belonging to Jacob Kinsey, now Abraham K. Freed's land. But in 1850 when the public school system was accepted the directors removed this school house over on the west side of Lederachville, to the place where that school house now stands. Though they built it so temporary that in only a few years it had to be rebuilt. The second building at that place likewise was only poor, and after some time had to be rebuilt, so that this is now the third school house at that place since 1850. Much might be said of the old time pay schools and the old school masters, and of the opposition to the public schools before they were accepted, but as my sketch is already longer than I had intended that it should be, I will have to omit those things. But will yet say that the salary for teaching, at first, was very low. In 1850 I taught in Upper Salford at $18 per month of 26 days each. About the same was paid in Lower Salford, and people thought the teachers were well paid.

THE POOR.

Before we had the almshouse in the county the poor were provided for by the township, so that each township kept its own poor, and we will now before we close this history, yet give our readers a sketch of the manner in which the poor were kept. There were two men in each township who were called in German, *armen pfleger*, and, in English, overseers of the

poor. It was the duty of those men to see that the poor were properly cared for, that they had good clothing and all the necessaries of life. The expense of maintaining or supporting them was paid by the township, and was obtained by taxation and otherwise as we shall show further on. The overseers of the poor were at first elected by the people of the township, but afterward they were appointed by the court of Philadelphia as will thus be seen: "Das Arman pfleger amt von Lower Salford township ist am 15ten tag Mertz 1762 auf 6 yahr verlost, und ist wie folgt."—The election to the office of overseers of the poor of Lower Salford for 6 years was held the 15th day of March, 1762, and is as follows:

George Shambaugh. Christopher Dickenshied.	1762.
Frederick Goetz. Jacob Dienig	1763.
Rudolph Harley. Nicholas Schwenk.	1764.
Christian Weirman. Christopher Hoffman.	1765.
George Krieble. Christopher Wiegner.	1766.
Christopher Krieble. Christian Halteman.	1767.

The aforesaid election was the last one held in which overseers of the poor were elected, for afterward they were appointed by the court as will be seen by the following: "At a private session held at Philadelphia for the county of Philadelphia the 25th of March, 1768, Philip Stong and George Slaughter (Schlotterer) are appointed overseers of the poor for Lower Salford, the ensuing year, and are to provide for the poor according to law. Balance due N. O. £36. 2s. 6d.

I LAWRENCE ATT."

The next year, March 26, 1770, Jacob Reiff and Henry Cassel were appointed, but in filling out the certificate a mistake was made and the name of John Reiff was inserted. The balance due the new overseers was £39. 18. 10. In 1772 Dillman Ziegler and William Gergas were appointed and still

further changes were made, for they were qualified to act according to law, and the following was added to their certificate. "The above overseers were duly qualified before me,

JOHN BULL."

Besides the receipts and certificates which were granted there was a book kept, called the township book, because it belonged to the township, and many things were written into this book in both English and German. The book was kept at the hotel in Harleysville and that was the place where the elections were held and the annual settlements were made. This book and many receipts, certificates and other manuscripts have been gathered up and preserved by Abraham H. Cassel, and by him filed in regular order, and can be seen in his library. The aforesaid balance of £39. 18. 10. due the new overseers, Jacob Reiff and Henry Cassel, is duly entered in order in the book, and agrees with the certificate. But about that time still other changes were made, and the statements of settlements which previously had been entered into the book by a lawyer and were generally witnessed or certified by three of them, were henceforth made "in the presence of three reputable freeholders" of the township. And the statements which previously were made to corroborate, do not come up to those made previously. For instance we give an example as follows: "March 25, 1774, it appears by settling the accounts in the presence of three reputable freeholders of Lower Salford township, who subscribed their names in the book, that the disbursements made for the year past was two shillings. So remains the sum in bank £30. 7. 9. which we certify.

FREDERICK DICKENSHIED.

MICHAEL ZIEGLER."

(third name is illegible.)

We would reasonably suppose that by turning to the book we would there find the statement to corroborate, with the statement as given, which we find elsewhere by itself, but to prove that we do not, we will tell our readers what we do find there. The statement in the book is written in German, and is dated March 29, 1774, stating that the accounts of Jacob Clemens and Samuel Delp, overseers of the poor, have been examined by Christian Bergey, Christian Moyer and Herman Achey, and found that the disbursement was two shillings, leaving a balance of £29. 2. 6. "witness our hands. Christian Bergey, Christian Moyer, Herman Achey."

We will now take the next year's settlement, also written in German, dated March 18, 1775, stating that the accounts of Michael Ziegler and Frederick Dickenshied had been examined by Isaac Markley, Daniel Price and George Reiff, and found that the disbursements had been two shillings, leaving a balance of £30. 7. 9. This is again witnessed by their hands. Here we now have the balance which was called for one year previously in the statement by itself. It would appear reasonable that the same party which would audit the accounts of the overseers of the poor, should also audit the supervisor's account, (for they had only one at that time) but such is not the case. In the settlement of the account of Dillman Ziegler, supervisor in 1775, the auditors were Herman Achey, Jacob Reiff, Jr., Daniel Price, Christian Moyer and Henry Cassel. This shows that quite a number of men had their fingers in the pie belonging to the township, and each one got a small piece every year.

The poor were not all kept in exactly the same way, because they were not all in the same circumstances, for some were sent around from one

place to another after being at each place a certain number of days, while others were old cripples who had to be kept at the same place, and their boarding or rent had to be paid, besides being kept in clothing, and when they lived on rent they had to be supported also.

The regular accounts of this book extend over a period of fifty-six years, or from 1752 to 1808. And to satisfy the curiosity of our friends we will make some extracts from it, and afterward we will show who the overseers were from year to year in those fifty-six years. In giving these extracts my readers will be on the lookout for bad spelling and poor grammar. The first overseers' names in the book are Valentine Kratz and Frederick Alderfer in 1752, and in 1753 we have William Shuler and Ulrich Stauffer. We will extract from this page as follows: "William Showler and Udrich Stauffer overseers of the Poor in Loure Sulford Township in the County of Philadelphia for the year 1753.

Paid for a poor man named Jacob Stiffel hous Rend to henrey Ernst in Germantown	7.10.0
October 10. more for Bringen his guds ob to Adam bosserd.	0.15
October the 10 Paid for anoder lam lad to Petter Stege for 8 weeks Died living in Philadelphia Doekter of fissigh	4.00
and for Droing the agreements betteen the said Petter Stege and the overseers	0.7.6
mor for the hors the Red down to Philadel	4.6
November the 7 day	
Paid to Gabril Showler for one week's dyet and one Par of stogins	0.9.0
november the 21 day	
Paid to Nicklas Johnsen for 4 monts and one weeks Dyet	3.6.8
and for 8 Iards and ahlf of linnin for Shorts and Trouses and the machin of them	1.3.2
March the 23 1754	
Paid house Rent for Jacob Stiffel to Nicklas Rerich	2.0.0
	19.15.10
To Cash paid Doct. Adolph Meir for attending John Brown	1.6.6
	21.2.4

There is no other statement like the foregoing to be found in the book though the writing was done in English and was done pretty well until 1772 when the German commences and continues until 1808, but

there were some curious things entered. Even when strange cattle, horses or sheep came into the township it was written into the township book and fifty cents were charged which went to the support of the poor, and the sheep or cattle were advertised; if the owner came and proved property it belonged to him after paying expenses, but if the owner did not claim and prove his property, it was sold, and the proceeds went into the hands of the overseers of the poor. From 1754 to 1760 the book was kept by several good scholars and the settlements were not signed by any one until 1763, when it was settled by Evan Thomas and is so stated. The next year Henry Pawling undersigned his name to it, and on March 25, 1768, the settlement of the year 1767 is signed by three lawyers, Sam G. Mifflin, Will Sarr and Jacob Hall. From this date on the settlements are signed by several men.

We find the following entry dated March 25, 1760: "The Said accomptants charges themselves with the further Sum of £2-16-3 beeing what sD Township got by wagons employed in the kings service—and which was Dehs to the sD overseers for the use of the poor." We will make further extracts from the debtor side of the book, as follows:

1760.

July 29 by Cash paid for Liquor Sugar and Coffe for the maintainans of Jacob Stiffel a poor of sD Township	£0-3-6
August 16 by Cash paid Doctors Iserloe for madec used for Jacob Stiffel	0-3-0
By Cash paid peter freed Rent for Jacob Stiffel	2-0-0
By Dito paid Doctor mayers for meds for sd Stiffel	0-7-6

We will make yet a few extracts and then proceed with other interesting matter.

1763 the 21th Day of march

by Cash paid peter freed for House Rent	£3-00-00
Dito to Doctors wagner and mayers for mede	£0-2-3

the 23th of march

by Cash paid for Drowing the Dublicate	£0-5-0

We further find the following entry in German:

"Notice is hereby given that a person, namely Catharine Prusin, a strange woman in this township of Lower Salford, died and traveled to eternity, namely on May 22, 1771. Therewith also a poor man, namely Joseph Wigel in the aforesaid township, who died and was buried the 19th of December, 1771."

There are quite a number of accounts of stray sheep which had come into the township, and as no owner came for them they were sold and the proceeds put into the poor fund.

At the close of the accounts we find yet the following:

"April 25th 1811, Christian Weirman of Lower Salford Township hath given Information (to Benjamin Reiff the Township Clerk Elected for the time being) that he had taken up and distrained two horse kind, one black mare about 5 years old and about fourteen hands high main and tail Cut, and one rone gray Mare Colt two years old with a long tail & snip at its forehead, and that he had taken them into Close custody on Wednesday Morning the 24th of April. Now Saturday Morning April 27th 1811 Isaac McGlathery proved to be the right owner of the above described horses and took them away—

paid sd Weirman for keeping	$1.00
and for this entry not fully taxed."	.50

There is another entry made of nearly the same kind in the same year for a horse which was afterward proven as the property of "Ardemas Steward of Jinkentown."

We have already mentioned that the first entry made in said book is dated 1752, and the overseers that year were Valentine Kratz and Frederick Alderfer. In 1753 they were William Shuler and Ulrich Stauffer; in 1754, William Shuler and John Frederick Stoufer; in 1755, Johannes Snyder and Henry Hefflefinger; in 1756, Christian Stoufer and John Uley Bergee; in 1757, John Clemens and Nicholas Holdeman; in 1758, John Clemens and Christian Moyer; in 1759, Peter Freed and Henry Lederach; in 1760, Jacob Krop and Abraham Clemens; in 1761, John Johnson and Jacob Shoemaker; in 1762, George Shambach and Christopher Dickenshied; in 1763, Frederick Goetz and Jacob Dienig; in 1764, Rudolph

Harley and Nicholas Schwenk; in 1765, Christian Weirman and Christopher Hoffman; in 1766, George Krieble and Christopher Wiegner; in 1767, Christopher Krieble and Christian Holdeman:—appointed by court in 1768, Philip Stong and George Schlotterer; in 1769, George Heydrick and Yelles Stauffer; in 1770, Jacob Reiff and Henry Cassel for two years; in 1772, Dielman Ziegler and William Gerges; in 1773, Jacob Clemens and Samuel Delp; in 1774, Michael Ziegler and Frederick Dickenshied; in 1775, Christian Stauffer and Godshalk Godshalk; in 1776, Jacob Bossart and Andrew Krieble; in 1777, John Freed and William Yocum; in 1778, Paul Knapper and John Delp; in 1779, Joseph Alderfer and Isaac Kratz; in 1780, Gabriel Shuler and Gerhart Stauffer; in 1781, George Reiff and Henry Hefflefinger; in 1782, Mathias Stauffer and Rudolph Harley; in 1783, Christian Bergey and John Alderfer; in 1784, Isaac Markley and Jacob Moyer; in 1785, Henry Lederach and Gerhart Clemens; in 1786, George Heckler and Abraham Clemens; in 1787, George Trumbore and Samuel Harley; in 1788, Jacob Ziegler and John Price; in 1789, Andrew Ziegler and William Price; in 1790, Joseph Wismer and Henry Harley; in 1791, Gabriel Klein and Andrew Krupp; in 1792, Henry Holtaman and John Price; in 1793, Henry Weirman and Conrad Keely; in 1794, Georg Schwenk and Henry Oberholtzer; in 1795, Jeremiah Krieble and William Tennis; in 1796, Henry Stong and Edward Flin; in 1797, John Springer and Bernard Fryer; in 1798, Godshalk Godshalk and Abraham Harley; in 1799, John Clemens and John Delp; in 1800, Abraham Alderfer and Benjamin Alderfer; in 1801, George Heydrick and Frederick Alderfer; in 1802, Leonard Hendricks and Abraham

Krieble; in 1803, Conrad Gergas and Samuel Williams; in 1804, Abraham Markley and Michael Ziegler; in 1805, John Price and Henry Kolb; in 1806, John Clemmer and Daniel Reiff; in 1807, Jacob Wagner and John Shutt.

There was one Anna Maria Zerg, who the Germans call Zergin, for the *in* is added in German to proper nouns to designate the feminine gender—who was kept by the township and "boarded round" for many years, as will be seen by the two last of the following lists of names, the original of which can be seen in the library of A. H. Cassel. There are no dates to the original lists; I add the dates knowing that they are right. What those figures opposite each man's name designate I can not say.

A LIST OF 1760.

Frederick Alderfer	20
Ulrich Bergey	20
John Clemens	26
Abraham Clemens	28
Jacob Clemens	35
Christopher Dickenshied	12
Peter Freed	26
Frederick Goetz	14
John Goetz	12
Jacob Hoffman	14
George Hoffman	14
ChristophHoffman	12
Rudolph Harley	22
Henry Hefflefinger	22
Christian Halteman	15
Nicholas Halteman	18
George Heydrick	14
Jan Jans-n	14
Nicholas Janson	18
Jacob Krop	15
George Krieble	15
Christopher Krieble	16
Valentine Kratz	12
Margaret Gergas	26
Isaac Klein	35
Gabriel Klein	14
Henry Lederach	18
Christian Moyer	16
Daniel Price	35
Jacob Reiff, Jr.	10
Jacob Reiff, Sr.	50
Christian Stauffer	28
Ulrich Stauffer	24
John Schneider	35
Adam Schneider	10
Gabriel Shuler	45
William Shuler	16
Nicholas Schwenk	18
Martin Shawecker	10
Jacob Shoemaker	20
Philip Stong.	8
George Shambach	21
Christian Weyerman	16
Christopher Wiegner	16
George Weikert	20
Andrew Ziegler	42
Dielman Ziegler	12

The following is a list of 1776:

"Specification of those persons laying on expense of the people of Lower Salford—Anna Maria Zergin, who will be kept by the people in the said township. On account of which the fol-

lowing list has been made, showing how high each inhabitant is taxed. And also made the commencement with Jacob Bossart, overseer of the poor."

Jacob Bossart	12
Simon Delp	12
Christopher Hoffman	10
William Yocum	8
William Dinnet	8
George Krieble	12
Christopher Krieble	12
Andrew Krieble	10
George Heydrick	12
Rudolph Harley, Jr.,	8
Jacob Grob	10
Herman Auchy	8
Abraham Aiderfer	12
Paul Snapper	8
Nicholas Schwenk	12
Christian Moyer	18
Rudolph Harley	28
Daniel Price	26
John Alderfer	8
Gerhart Clemens	12
Henry Lederach	12
Christopher Dickenshied	10
Andrew Campbell	10
Gabriel Klein	12
Jacob Clemens	18
Frederick Alderfer	40
Gabriel Shuler, Jr.,	14
Elizabeth Shuler	4
Christian Stauffer	10
Bernard Getz	12
Mathias Stauffer	10
Philip Stong	12
John Freed, Jr.,	10
Peter Freed	22
Gerhart Stauffer	14
Jacob Reiff	44
George Reiff	18
Jacob Shoemaker	10
Henry Cassel	12
Michael Ziegler	8
Andrew Ziegler	18
Godshall Godshall	12
Dillman Ziegler	14
Henry Hefflefinger	12
Isaac Markley	12
Elizabeth Wierman	10
Christian Holdeman	12
Christian Bergey	14
William Gargas	10
Valentine Kratz	18
Jacob Alderfer	8
Abraham Clemens' widow	20

The second name, Simon Delp, should be Samuel Delp. William Dinnet is not in the regular tax-list of 1776. It should be William Tennis.

1788—A LIST

Of how many days Anna Maria Zergin (English Zerg.) was to be with each freeholder in the township.

Leonard Hendricks	7
John Delp	6
Christopher Hoffman	5
William Yocum	4
George Krieble	6
Christopher Krieble	6
Andrew Krieble	5
George Heydrick	6
Henry Harley	4
Samuel Harley	3
Andrew Krupp	5
Herman Auchy	4
Abraham Alderfer	6
George Markley	4
Nicholas Schwenk	6
Jacob Moyer	6
Christian Moyer	4
Rudolph Harley	11
William Price	5
John Price	5
Daniel Price	4
Garret Clemens	6
John Alderfer	7
Henry Lederach	6
Christopher Dickenshied's place	5
Oooo Wechter	5
Ludwich Klein	4
John Clemens	5
Joseph Alderfer	6
Gabriel Shuler	7
Elizabeth Shuler	2
Peter Boorse	5
George Trumbore	3
Mathias Stauffer	5
Jacob Stong	5
John Stong	3

Joseph Wismer	4
Peter Freed	5
George Heckler	6
Jacob Reiff	20
On the other farm	7
George Reiff	9
John Reiff	4
Jacob Shoemaker	5
John Springer	5
Michael Ziegler	4
Godshall Godshall	6
Jacob Ziegler	3
Dillman Ziegler	7
Martin Bogar	6
Isaac Markley	6
Henry Wierman	5
Christian Haldeman	6
Christian Bergey	7
William Gargas	5
Isaac Kratz	5
Jacob Alderfer	6
Abraham Clemens	10
Abraham Krupp	2
Henry Oberholtzer	3

CONSTABLES.

In the township book of Lower Salford we also find a list of constables, always two in each year, covering a period of twenty-two years, from 1792 to 1814 inclusive. The constables in 1792 were Isaac Markley and Andrew Ziegler; in 1793, Isaac Kratz and Abraham Clemens; in 1794, Jacob Reiff and John Alderfer; in 1795, Christian Bergey and Isaac Delp; in 1796, Garret Clemens and William Price; in 1797, William Tennis and Jeremiah Krieble; in 1798, Andrew Krupp and Jacob Meyer; in 1799, Henry Stong and Conrad Keely; 1800, Leonard Hendricks and Joseph Alderfer; in 1801, John Clemens and Andrew Krieble; in 1802, George Schwenk and Michael Ziegler; in 1803, Christopher Krieble and Bernard Fryer; in 1804, John Shutt and Daniel Reiff; in 1805, Christian Stauffer and Samuel Williams; in 1806, Henry Wierman and Andrew Ziegler; in 1807, Abraham Markley and John Krupp; in 1808, George Hechler, Jr., and John Smith; in 1809, William Yocum and John Reiff; in 1810, Peter Hechler and John Moyer; in 1811, Edward Flinn and Abraham Alderfer; in 1812, Abraham Harley and Danied Kramer; in 1813, John Alderfer and Christian Fryer; in 1814, Joseph Reiff and George Heydrick.

SUPERVISORS.

In the year 1759 Martin Shawecker was the supervisor, and on June 23d of 1760, he and the auditors met at the house of John Johnson, now

the residence of Joseph M. Cassel, and made a final settlement of the previous year. In 1760 they had John Uly Bergey; then we have no accounts for several years, but in 1765 it was Christopher Dickenshied; in 1766, Christian Holdeman; in 1767 and 1768, Jacob Krupp; in 1769 and 1770, Rudolph Harley; in 1771 and 1772, Gabriel Klein; in 1773 and 1774, Dillman Ziegler; in 1775 and 1776, two suporvisors, Isacc Markley and Mathias Stauffer; in 1777, Nicholas Schwenk and George Reiff; in 1778, Isaac Markley and Philip Stong; in 1779, Herman Achey and Gerhart Stauffer; in 1780, Godshalk Godshalk and Herman Achey; in 1781, and 1782, Godshalk Godshalk and Jacob Krob; in 1783, Isaac Markley and Daniel Price; in 1784, Dillman Ziegler and Daniel Price; in 1785, Dillman Ziegler and George Heydrick; in 1786 and 1787, John Alderfer and Abraham Alderfer; in 1788, John Alderfer and Nicholas Schwenk; in 1789, Nicholas Schwenk and Christian Bergey; in 1790, Isaac Markley and Gabriel Shuler; in 1791, Gabriel Shuler and Jacob Alderfer; in 1792 and 1793, Godshalk Godshalk and Henry Harley; in 1794 and 1795, John Alderfer and Henry Harley; in 1796 and 1797, Henry Harley and Isaac Kratz; in 1798, Henry Harley and John Clemens; in 1799, Henry Harley and Garret Clemens; in 1800, Garret Clemens and Jacob Moyer; in 1801, Jacob Moyer and John Klemmer; in 1802, John Klemmer and Jeremiah Krieble; in 1803, Jeremiah Krieble and Jacob Ziegler; in 1804, Jeremiah Krieble and Andrew Ziegler; in 1805 and 1806, Isaac Klein and Bernard Fryer; in 1807 and 1808, Abraham Harley and Dillman Ziegler; in 1809, Dillman Ziegler and Isaac Klein. In 1811 they adopted the decimal system of money;

namely, dollars and cents. Their expense had been $89.96, and their receipts were $121.06.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

Before closing this volume it seem necessary to say something about the geography and general features, and formation of the land surface, the hills, the streams and other matters relating to the the township. The surface of Lower Salford is what is generally called rolling. The land is productive and some parts of it are nearly level while other parts are more or less hilly. The soil is mostly made up of clay and gravel; the rock is red shale and generally lays near the surface. Nearly every field has more or less loose stones mixed in the soil. The rock which is of primitive formation we would attribute to the Azoic age, for there do not appear to be any fossil remains in the rock, excepting those of vegetation at some places near the surface. There is a bed of flag and square-sided building stones, running east and west through the township. At some places they appear to be imbedded at considerable depth, while at other places they lay near the surface.

Large quantities of the best of those stones have been taken out of the bed of the Little Branch, near the Willow Dale Creamery, and along the small stream on the lot recently belonging to John Sherley, deeased. The same bed of flags extends westward toward the Perkiomen, where they are found near the surface, at the Long Run in Skippack township. The same bed extends eastward in the township where large quantities of nearly the same kind have been quarried near the Skippack creek on the farms of Isaac Rosengerger, George Metz and others.

Any quantity of stone may also be quarried along the hills of the Branch creek, but they are not generally so smooth and square-sided as those others just

mentioned.

Another point to be noticed about these stones is this that they do not lay flat or horizontal in their beds, but are inclined or depressed toward the north-west at an angle of probably about thirty degrees.

The Perkiomen water shed extends from Harleysville south-westward through Lederachville. This is the highest ridge in the township. The highest land we would judge to be near the residence of Rev. Jacob C. Moyer, and the lowest near Nyce's mill, at the mouth of the Little Branch. There is also an elevation know as the "Long Hill," in the south-western part of the township, running north-eastward and terminating in high land on the east side of the Little Branch. The Skippack creek is remarkable for having hills only on the north-west side thereof through Lower Salford and Towamencin, while the other side has at some places a gradual ascent, and at others it is nearly level. The said stream flows through the eastern part of the township a distance of about two miles receiving a number of small tributaries.

The "Branch," being the East Branch of the Perkiomen, rises back in Bedminster township, Bucks county, and comes winding around into this township on the north-west side where it immediately receives the Indian Creek, a considerable tributary, and follows a tortuous course in a deep serpentine vale south-westwardly, nearly four miles through the township; it afterward falls into the Perkiomen, below Schwenksville. On both sides of this stream are high and steep hills, and some of them are still covered with a species of spruce.

The Little Branch is the principal stream of the township, and drains the greater part thereof by its many small tributaries. It falls into the

Skippack, near Nyce's mill. All these streams have washed out their beds wonderfully in the time of my recollections, and run much deeper now then when I was young. At that time people kept their streams from washing and took the water over the meadows. At that time a species of fish known as the pike were numerous yet in these small streams, but now they are extinct. The pike is a long round fish; they generally inhabit ponds, and in the spring of the year they go out into shallow water, where it is placid, and lay themselves in the sun. They lay so quietly that they can be caught with a loop made of horse hair or fine wire. But if they are disturbed they will shoot off into deep water. They are a very good fish and have no bones excepting the vertebra. Eels, and some large ones, were plenty, but have now become scarce in this township. They are still numerous in the Perkiomen, but how they breed is still a mystery.

When I was young the streams were much more continuous, for there was then much timber standing yet which kept the land moist, and in the woods were found opossums, skunks and raccoons. Skunks are still found at some places. Ground hogs were scarce though a few were caught in the township in my recollection. The largest raccoon I ever saw was caught at my father's barn in 1855. But there are probably none in the township now, for all kinds of game have become scarce and some almost extinct in the township. Fabulous stories were related to us by our fathers and grandfathers in regard to the multitude of wild pigeons in the land in their time. There were still some in the spring and autumn in my recollection, and there may occasionally be a few now yet. In the spring of 1847 there were millions of them caught in

a snow storm while migrating northward, but were driven back fairly darkening the sky for an hour or two.

Land tortoises were numerous fifty years ago, but are now becoming scarce.

Fifty years ago or about 1840 many log houses and others built of stone by the first settlers were still standing, but were gradually replaced by new ones. At that time there were yet many old buildings covered with tiles. Tile baking or burning was one of the first employment aside from farming. It will not be long now until people do not know what tiles are or for what purpose they were used. Slates began to take the place of tiles about the year 1850 or 1855. There were no buildings in Lower Salford covered with slates before 1855. But until that time there were still some buildings thatched with straw. Chain horse-powers, threshers and feed cutters began to be introduced about the year 1845, but mowers and reapers did not come until 1860. Much could be said of the excitement which existed not only in Lower Salford but in all the land during the late Civil war, but I will pass by and will not detain my readers much longer. Will yet say that the name, Salford is entirely English. It is the name of a small town in Lancashire, the name of a parish in Bedfordshire, and also of a parish in Oxfordshire, England. Many other places inhabited by the German element are of English origin; such as Hatfield, Marlborough, Hereford, and other places.

FINIS.

GENERAL INDEX.

Achey, Herman, 175, 357
Alderfer, Abraham, 168, 188, 347, 350, 439
" Abraham B., 84, 113, 366
" Abraham G., 95
" Abraham O., 188
" Abraham S., 1, 12. 13
" Abraham S., 117, 355
" Abraham, 170, 191, 233, 268
" Benjamin, 169, 236, 259, 351, 407
" Benjamin F., 366
" Benjamin G., 408
" Benjamin S., 233
" Benjamin Z., 232, 233, 236
" Daniel, 187, 348, 379
" Frederick, 165, 231, 232, 235
" Frederick, saddler, 186, 188, 353
" Frederick, 170
" George D., Esq , 12, 174, 183, 188, 359, 374
" Henry M., 188
" Rev. Isaac, 188, 351, 353, 425
" Isaac D., 3, 77, 79, 369
" Isaac O., 189
" Jacob, 168, 185, 187, 235
" Jacob, Jr., 188
" Jacob F., 174, 188, 205
" Jacob H., 367
" Jacob K , 233, 269
" John, 168, 169, 232
" John D , 151
" John F., 186
" John, miller, 207, 226, 233, 268
" John K., 269
" John S , 407
" Jonas N., 79, 363
" Levi, 233
" Michael, 162, 236 246
" Milton, 214, 252
Allebach, Amos, 240
" Christian, 2. 5, 84, 99, 164, 174, 190, 193, 219, 331, 356
" Christian, 71, 93, 414
" Christian M., 233
" David, 72
" David, 400
" Henry V., 394
" Jacob, 91
" Jacob H., 188, 189
" John M., 75
Allen, William, Esq., 196
Anders, Abraham and George, 382, 383, 395
Anderson, Jesse, 414, 417
" Valentine, 54
Antes, Frederick, Esq , 72
Arndt, Jacob, 365
Asheton, Ralph, 120
Ashton, Robert, 142
Austin, Thomas, 11

B.

Bacon, William, 118, 136
Bailey, Henry, 140
Barndt, Abraham and Paul, 368
Bean, Dillman, 123, 129, 132
" Henry, 117
" Jacob, 254
" John, 175
" Col. Theo. W. 68
Becker, Arnold, 375
" Henry, 163, 182, 440
" Eld. Peter 43, 262, 280, 304, 334
Benrer, Abraham, 148
" Abraham, 230
" Charles, 204
" David, 122, 134
" Elias, 149
" Jacob, 130
" Joseph, 148
Bergey family, 156—162
Bergey, Aaron, 162
" Abraham, 160
" Abraham, 161
" Christian, 146, 161
" Christian , 160
" Cornelious, 53, 56
" Daniel, 251
" David, miller, 146
" Rev. David, 95, 159
" Godshall R , 95
" Hans Ulrich, 126, 156, 222, 238, 239
" Henry, 78
" Isaac, 160
" Jacob, 161
" Jacob O., 59, 199, 210, 226, 230, 354
" Jacob R., 95
" Jacob K., 155

Bergey, John, 203
" John, miller, 158, 159
" Rev. John, 161, 199, 221
" Michael, 158, 159
" Samuel, 160
" Samuel, 203
" William, 160
Beyer, Andrew, 337
Beysher, Edwin N. sheriff, 226
Biger, George, 58
Binder, Jacob B., 63
" John, 41, 62
" Samuel B., 63
Beisel, Conrad, 125
Bingaman, Lawrence, 99, 113, 346
Boaz, John, 239
Boehm, Rev. John Philip, 4, 5, 6, 138, 356, 415, 418
Boger, Martin, 35, 143, 154
Boochard, Hans George, 153
Boone, George, Esq., 5
Boorse, Daniel and Peter, 192, 204
" Jonas, 369, 373
" John S., 80, 347, 379, 389
" Peter, 79, 113, 363, 378
" Peter B., 225, 373
" Reuben G., 370
Bossart Jacob, 377
Bower, Rev. Henry S., 63
Boyer, Philip, sheriff, 73, 312, 353
" Michael, 58
Brockden, Charles, Esq., 152
Brunner, James, 375
Buck, William, J., 409, 415, 429
Bull, John, Esq., 153, 405, 413
Bush, Peter, 275
Bustard, James W., 363
Butler, Simon, 86
Butterwick, Moses, 161
Button, Jacob, 17, 20

C.

Cassel, Abraham H., 242, 276, 286, 301, 315, 334, 335, 350, 382, 383, 389, 403
" Daniel K., 81
" David, 256
" David M., 401, 403
" Ephraim, 63
" Henry, 8, 95
" Heinrich, 215
" Huppert, 153, 315
" Joseph M., 36, 309
" Samuel H., 66, 74, 275
" Yelles, 153
" Yelles, 43, 314
Cassel, C. Yelles, 301, 310, 314
Campbell, Andrew, 13, 31, 32, 267
Clemens, Abraham, 222
" Abraham, 223
" Daniel, 190, 192
" Gerhart, 210
" Gerhart, 220
" George, 223, 225
" George M., 222, 225
" Henry, 221, 257
" Henry N., 221
" Henry O., 229
" Isaac N., 225, 229
" Rev. Isaac, 212, 214, 220, 228
" Jacob, 196, 212, 218
" Jacob, 220
" Jacob C., 417
" Jacob K., 51, 258
" Jacob N., 267, 377
" Jacob, 222
" John B., 191
" John O., 163, 229
" John, 198, 277
" John, 225
" John N., 289
" John 192
" Manass, 16, 63
Clemmer, Abraham, 191
" Daniel, 54
" Hans, 161, 166
" Henry, 221
" Henry M., 268
" Jacob 192
" John, Sr., 191, 204
" John, 192
" John, 190
" John, 395
" John K., 256
" John M., 48
" John W., 48
" Joseph, 190
" Levi, 403
" Simeon, 267
" Tobias, 56
Conver, Joseph, 195
Consenheiser, Felty, 88
Coultes, James, sheriff, 240
Cousty, Hugh, 90
Cressman, Reuben, 63
Croll, Christian, 4, 138, 338
" Michael, Esq., 79, 112, 138, 232, 263
" Michael, 238
Custer, Conrad, 4, 338, 349
" Daniel, 141

D.

Dehaven, "Betty" 45
Delp, Abraham, 15, 16, 329
" Abraham A., 268
" Abraham D., 401, 404, 408
" Andrew and Henry, 128, 132, 135, 227
" Godshalk, 83, 113, 174, 365
" George, 15
" George, 314, 378
" Hans George, 14, 21, 322, 329, 384
" Henry, 213
" Henry C., 12, 38
" Isaac, 14, 15, 21
" Isaac H., 113, 362, 368
" John, 15, 16, 180
" John, 21
" Jonas, 274
" Joseph S., 196 198
" Leonard, 314, 379
" Samuel, 15
" Samuel, 375
" William, 247 259
Denich, Henry, 72, 138, 356
" Jacob, 138, 357
Derstein, Henry, 393
" Isaac, 15, 385
" John F., 271
De Silver, Robert, 347
Dettra, Christian, 203.
" Christian, 307
" Jesse, 404
Detwiler, Abraham, 129, 132
" Abraham, 28 289, 290, 314
" Benjamin, 168
" Christian, 290
" Christian, 309
" Garret, 149
" Rev. George, 309
" Henry, 348, 379
" Rev. Jacob, 29
" Jacob K., 381
" Jacob R., 376
" John, 290, 300
" John, 423
" John K., 258
" Joseph, 408
" Samuel, 168
" William, 4 0
Dickenshied, Christopher 22 190
" Frederick, 21, 22, 31
Dock, Christopher, 8, 172, 435, 437
Dotterer, Henry S., 17 19, 97, 195, 345, 349, 415
" George Philip, 102
Drake, Aram, 348, 354
" John A., 354
Dresher, Christopher, 402
Drissel, Joseph, 321, 328

E.

Eckman, Jacob, 154
Eggleston, Edward, 435
Egolf, John, 63
Eidemiller, John, surveyor, 353
Eickert, Joseph, 182
Ellis, Rowland, 142
Ellwood, Thomas, 71
Enger, Jacob, 152, 238
Erb, Samuel, 404
Espenship, Augustus, 224, 228 259
Evans, Rowland, 194

F.

Fairman, Benjamin, 87
Fitzgerald, James, 59
Flynn, Edmund, 133, 183
Fisher, Adam, Sr., 40, 348, 358
" Adam, Jr., 45, 358
" Jacob, 226
Fogel, Harman, 83, 96, 116 163, 372
Foulke, Cadwalader, Esq., 361, 387, 389
Frederick, Benjamin, 306
" Isaac, 306
" Jacob, 15
Freed, Abraham, 41, 42
" Abraham K., 127, 129, 202, 203
" Henry, 172
" Isaac, 399
" Jacob K., 206 258
" John, 41, 176
" John, 187
" John, 171
" Joseph, 56
" Michael, 92
" Paul, 171
" Peter, 171, 185, 196
Fretz, Joseph C., 269
Fronefield, Dr Charles, 37, 45, 46, 48, 53
Fry, Dr. George, 70, 117
" Heinrich, 87
" Henry, 149, 152
" Jacob, 87
" Joseph, 73, 204
Fryer, Bernhard, Christian and Henry, 85, 130
Funk, Rev. Christian, 22 24 291, 297
" Rev Henry, 24 124 125 126, 130, 290, 321, 331
" Jacob, 2, 298 332
" Rev John, 29, 297, 299
" Rev. John editor, 293

G.

Gable, Philip, 314
Gee, Joshua, 189
Geiger, Dr Henry, 37, 51
Gergas family, 236—249
Gergas, Abraham, 73, 246
" Anthony, 132, 227, 247
" Conrad, 73, 239, 242
" Henry, 160, 245
" Jacob, 70
" Jacob, 133, 151, 247
" Jacobina, 133 244, 247
" Peter, 83, 121, 132, 180
" Samuel, 145, 151, 207, 394
" William, 73, 238
" William, 236, 248
" William Y., 145
Gery, Nathan, 374
Getz, Bernard, Frederick and John, 363
Goetsby, Rev. John Henry, 416 420
Good, Felix, 114, 115, 413
Goshow, John, 403
Gotwals, Adam, 87
" Adam, 204
" Henry, 29
" Jacob V. Esq., 204
" John, 29
Grater, Abraham, 75
" Jacob, 171, 194
Greenleaf, Catharine, 265, 273, 288, 293
Groff, Dr. Henry G., 51, 196
" Jacob, fuller, 137
" Jacob S., 167, 233

H.

Hackman, Daniel, 372
" Henry, 210
" Joseph, 403
Hagey, Amos, 404
" George, 327
" Jacob, 337, 343, 351
" Valentine, 369
Hallman, Abraham, T., 121, 132, 133, 365
" Anthony, 72, 137
" Jacob, 225
Hangey, George, 302, 314
Harbaugh, Rev. Henry, 102, 108, 415
Harley family, 303—314
Harley, Abraham, 42, 44, 54
" Abraham, 266, 310, 426
" Daniel, 36
" Henry, 289, 333, 358
" Henry, 313, 341
Harley, Jacob, 311, 341
" Jacob K., 190, 192
" Jacob S., 36
" James A., 372, 373
" John, 38
" Rev. Jonas, 18, 302
" Joseph S., 36, 43
" Joseph, 265, 309, 356
" Mathias, 311
" Philip, 57
" Philip, 311
" Robert, Earl of Oxford, 304
" Rudolph, 42, 43 301, 303, 333
" Samuel, 13, 32, 42, 267, 333, 336
" Samuel, 80
" Dr Samuel, 303
" Rev. Samuel, 38, 312
" Thomas, 304
" William, 313, 341
Hartman, Adam, 302, 314
Hartranft, Samuel, 58, 209 226
" Ex. Gov. John F., 226
Hauck, Samuel, 185
Haverstock, Joseph, 145
Haycock, Lewis, 360, 387
Heckler family, 181
" Abraham, 38
" Abraham and David, 182
" Frank, 346, 348
" George, 16, 177, 180, 385
" George, 181, 385
" George 15, 373, 378, 385
" George P., 83, 164, 165, 179
" Henry, 385
" Isaiah B., 373
" Jacob B., 373
" Jacob S., 177
" Jacob 180
" James Y., 98, 108
" Jesse Y., 47, 270, 275
" Joseph, 163, 177, 182
" Joseph D., 97
" Martin, 177, 348
" Peter 181, 182, 385
Heebner, Christopher, 376
" Joseph, 2 3
" Samuel, 370, 372
Heffelfinger, Colla, 122, 142
" Henry 143
" Jacob, 223
Heiser, Jacob and John, 225
Hendricks, Benjamin, 394
" Charles, 226
" Henry, 400
" Isaiah, 71, 77
" Jacob, 364, 378
" Jacob, Jr., 379

Hendricks, James Y., 394
" John B., 364, 372, 379
" Lawrence, 71, 78
" Leonard, 364, 377
" Peter and Nathan, 365
" Samuel B, 365
Herr, John, 27, 30
Herpster, Ephraim, 246
Hertzell, Ulrich, 193
Heydrick, Abraham, 405
" Baltzer, 39, 40 347, 379, 389, 395
" Casper and George, 404
" George, 243 388
" George, 347, 379, 389
Heister, Daniel, Esq, 80
Hiestand, Abraham, 215
Hill, Richard, 82 118, 142, 298
Hines, John, 208
Hoch, Jonathan, 207, 226
Hodum, Frederick, 54
Hoffman, Rev. Balthasar, 386, 389, 405
" Rev. Christopher, 389 393
" George, 386
" Jacob, 113, 114, 346
Holdeman, Rev. Abraham, 155, 161
" Rev. Christian, 154
" Christian, 10, 151
" Christian, 155
" John, 386, 389
" Nicholas, Sr., 146
" Nicholas, Jr, 147
Hoover, Christian, 272
Hope, John, 104
Horning, John, 290
" William, 286, 292
Houpt, Henry, 96, 115
Hover, Wandel, 393, 402
Humel, Jacob, 352, 439
Hunsperger, Christian, 200
" Enos, 403
" Michael, 70
" Peter, 227, 269, 408
Hunsicker, Abraham, 251
" George, 400
" John, 211, 230, 251
" John, 290
" Valentine, 251, 259, 400
" William Z., 375
Hyde, Henry Joseph, 70

I.

Indehaven, Gerhart, 98, 101, 102, 415
Indian quaws, 95 262

J.

Jacobs, Israel, 11
Jenkins, John, 90
Johnson, Claus, 344
" Dr. Benjamin K, 47, 373
" Charles, T, 149
" Dirk, 1, 32, 118, 262, 287
" John, 4, 113, 346, 348
" John, Jr., 350
" John, 145
" John, 382
" Michael, 145
" Nicholas, 346, 348
Jones, Joseph, 15, 344, 359
" Robert, Esq., 98, 126 153, 171, 196, 222, 345, 421
" William, 196, 345

K.

Keaten, William, 394
Keeler, Dr. Rine, K., 7, 37, 51, 52, 67
" J Rine, V. S., 52
" Richard, 48
" Dr. Vincent Z., 41
Keely, Conrad and Margaret, 191, 268, 308
Kember, John, 402
Kemper, John, 148
Kepler, Coplin, 374
" Samuel, 372
Keyser, Garret, 130, 140
" Nathan, 75
" Rev. Peter, 231
" William, wheelwright, 140, 141
" William, 83, 367
Keyter, Peter, 77
Kieber, Wendel, 101, 102
Kile Francis, sheriff, 226
King, Daniel, 355
" John, 21, 369
" Nancy, 182, 440
Kinsey, Jacob, 131, 169
" William, 95, 121
Klein, Gabriel and family, 12, 38
" Gabriel, 55, 333
" Isaac, 38
" Isaac, 333
" Jacob, 18
" Jacob, 38
" Jacob, 333
" Jacob C, 38, 53
" Jacob W., 54
" John Isaac, 1, 12, 16, 18, 114, 183, 186, 193 234, 287, 302
" John and Samuel, 333
" John, 38
" Richard, 18, 19, 302

Klemmer, John, 395
Knapper, Paul, 355
Koch, Sylvanus U , 83, 174, 184
Kramer, Andrew, 97, 367
" Daniel, 97
Kratz family, 249—261
Kratz, Abraham F., 43, 332, 338
" David, 203
" Henry W., Esq , 254
" Isaac, 236
" John, 408
Krieble, Abraham, 382 394
" Andrew, 336, 407
" Benjamin, 398
" Casper, 397
" Christopher, Sr., 401
" Dr. Christopher, 400, 402
" Rev. Christopher, 10, 402
" George, 387, 397 402
" George, Jr., 399
" Henry, 230
" Isaac, 396, 399
" Jeremiah, 398, 402, 403
" Jeremiah, Jr., 403
" Joseph, 403
" Samuel, 399
" Samuel, 403
" Septimus, 80, 210
Krupp, Abraham, 9, 311, 341
" Andrew, 10, 340
" Christian, 10
" Jacob, 10, 340
" Jacob and John, 311, 337, 341
" Jacob, 375
" Mollie, 372
" Samuel, 341
" Samuel, 343
Kulp, Abraham T , 128
" Dielman, 24, 117, 190
" Elias, 81, 85
" Elias, 210
" Henry, 358
" Henry, 122
" Jacob A., 14, 15
" Jacob, 123, 125, 126, 141
" Jacob, 221
" Jonas, 47
" Martin, 123, 125, 126 148, 172
" Peter, 171
" William, 302 357, 359
Kuhn, John, 375

L

Landes, Abraham, 148
" Abraham R., 149
Landes, Benjamin F., 374
" Elias R , 212, 214
" George R., 210
" Henry, 27, 28
" Henry R., 96, 115
" Jacob H., miller, 271
" Jacob, 328
" Jacob S , 386, 389
" Jacob, 401, 404
" Joseph, 308
" Michael, 81, 116
" Nathaniel, 289
" Samuel R. 173, 182, 196 199
Lawrence, John, Esq , 152
Lederach, Andrew, 199
" Henry, 201
" Henry, 169 203
" Henry, 205, 226
" John, 203
" John, 131, 205
" John, 135
" John, Jr , 137
" William, 206, 208, 228
Lewis, Jesse, 394 395, 400
" Jesse, Jr , 395
Leydich, Rev. John Philip, 185
Logan, James, 82, 118, 142, 157, 189 298
Long, Solomon, 131
Longacre, Daniel, 175
Longhurst, John 81
Lukens, Abraham and Joseph, 362
" Jan, 360
" John, 347
" Joseph, 407
" Peter, 90
Lutz, John F., 341

M.

Markley, Abraham, 35, 144, 336, 355
" Benjamin, 72
" George, 77, 231
" George, 333, 355 358
" Henry, 147
" Isaac, 147, 347, 358
" Jacob, 145
" Jacob J., 230
" James, 78, 139, 364
" John W., sheriff, 187
Martin, George, 8
Mattis, Tobias, 117
Mathews, Edward, 90, 197, 231
" Thomas, 86
May, Christian, 87
Melchoir, Leonard, 17, 19
Meschter, Christopher, 396

Meschter, Rev. George, 396
Metz Herman and George, 395
Metzgar, Richard, Jacob & John, 233. 269
Miller, Abijah & Enoch, 367
" Christopher, 88
" George, 46
Millington, John, 120
Minninger, Henry, 131
Moore, Mordicai & Richard, 120
Morris, Samuel, Esq., 7, 11, 32, 114, 123, 127, 265, 267, 273, 288, 293, 299
Moyer, Aaron H., 302, 314
" Abraham, 28
" Abraham D., 327
" Dr. Adolph, 415, 416
" Benjamin C., 184, 189
" Christian, Jr., deacon, 2, 190, 294, 356
" Christian, Sr., 2, 294, 320
" Christian, 13, 21, 323
" Christian, 28
" Christian, 383
" Daniel P., 47
" David, 364, 372
" Enos, 230
" Ezekiah, 327
" Hans, 4, 5, 328
" Henry, 6, 328
" Henry P., 48
" Jacob, 28, 325, 327
" Rev. Jacob C., 84, 174, 193
" Jacob D., 78, 327
" Jacob L., 208
" Jacob L., 330
" John, 2[illegible]3
" John, 364
" John C., 207, 225
" John H., 21, 55, 324
" John Vincent, 71
" Jonas, 155
" Jonas D., 47
" Jonas, 403
" Joseph, 56, 327
" Dr. Joseph, 327
" Joseph L., 321, 323, 3[illegible]5
" Mahlon H., 184, 189
" Peter, 192
" Peter, 389
" Samuel, 322, 323
" Simeon P., 47
" Theodore H., 174, 184
" William P., 47
" William L., 198
" William, 3[illegible]6
Muhlenburg, Rev. Henry, 189
" Frederick, Augustus, Judge, 144, 176
Murrey, Humphrey, 118, 1[illegible]6
Musselman, Aaron, 269, 271
Musselman, Henry,
" Noah,
" Samuel, 26,
" Samuel,

N.

Nagalee, John,
Nice, Abraham,
" Abraham B., 353,
" Abraham,
" Benjamin B.,
" Benjamin, 149,
" David D., 9[illegible]
" Frank, 6, 355, 356,
" George S.,
" Isaac,
" Jacob,
" Joseph K., 9[illegible]
" William,
" William,
Norris, Isaac, 118, 18[illegible]
Nuss, George,

O.

Oad, Thomas,
Otlinger, see Uplinger,
Oelshlager, Leonard,
Ott John,
Overholtzer, Henry, 198, 2[illegible]
" Henry, 266, 32[illegible]
" Jacob C.,
" Rev. Jacob, 15, 201, 266, 29[illegible]
Owen, Griffith, 11[illegible]
" Sarah,

P.

Pannepacker, Adolph,
" Daniel,
" Henry, 2, 3, 74, 97, 14[illegible]
" Samuel W., Esq., 293, 31[illegible]
Pastorious, Francis Daniel, 10[illegible]
" Henry,
Penn, Hon. John, Thomas & Richard, 152, 154, 16[illegible], 32[illegible]
" William, 33, 69, 71, 81, 118, 11[illegible], 142, 143,
Pennington, Isaac,
Pitt, William,
Plumstead, Clement,
" William,
Potts, Zebulon, sheriff, 17[illegible]

Powel, David, 69, 98, 135, 140, 162, 189, 200, 211, 344
" Samuel, 82, 183, 414
Price family, 262–286
Price, Abraham H., 272, 327
" Abraham M., 272
" Amos, 267, 279
" Daniel, 263, 277
" Daniel, 208
" Daniel, 274, 325
" Daniel, 144
" David, 119, 143
" Eli K., 284
" Hannah, 119, 143
" Henry, 203, 278
" Rev. Henry A., 274
" Rev. Isaac, 282, 283
" Rev. Jacob, 262, 276
" Rev. Jacob, 265, 283, 354
" Jacob H., 275
" Jacob M., 48, 268
" James, 53, 327
" Rev. John, 273, 281, 283
" John, 263
" Rev. Jonas, 270, 283
" Rev. Jonas H., 284
" Matthias M., 56, 264, 272, 274, 275
" Philip, 284
" William, 59
" William, 284
" Rev. William, 275, 281

Q.

Quinque, Augustus, 48, 63

R.

Rary, Nicholas, Henry & John, 45, 346, 347
Raudenbush, Ambrose, 48, 63
Rawlinson, George, 41
Reed, Charles, Esq., sheriff, 15, 346, 359
Reiff, Abraham, deacon, 190, 421, 422, 423
" Abraham, 75
" Abraham, 141
" Albert, 71, 73, 93
" Benjamin, Esq., 70, 73, 93, 96, 243
" Conrad, 98, 331
" Daniel, 75
" Elizabeth, 70
" George, 75, 94, 101, 115
" George S., 141
" George, 112, 426
" George C., 290
" Hans George, 75, 76
Reiff, Henry P., 90, 91, 146, 203, 278
" Jacob, the elder, 70, 74, 80, 171, 193, 195, 215, 263, 345, 414
" Jacob, 34, 80, 87, 96, 265
" Jacob, 94
" Jacob S., 207, 210
" Rev. John, 26, 29, 89, 96, 116, 311
" John, miller, 90, 278
" John C., 73, 93
" Joseph, 76
" Joseph, 307
" Michael, 93, 96
" Peter, 85, 96, 98
" William, 41, 94
Renberg, William Dirk & John, 77
Richards, Amos, 372, 375
" John, 71
Richardson, Elizabeth, 81
Robers, John, 11, 157
" Hugh, 120, 157, 238
" Robert, 157
Rorer, Jacob, 61
Rosenberger, Abraham, 410
" Enos L., 48
" Henry, 7, 26
" Isaac, 385
" Lyman, 63
" Martin, 182, 385
Rough, George, 152
Rupp, Prof. I. D., 10, 156, 166, 227
Ruth, Abraham, 266, 268
" Benjamin, 15, 385
" Henry, 3, 190
" Henry, 72
" Israel, 403
" Michael, 378

S.

Schlatter, Rev. Michael, 105, 116, 244, 419
Schlotter, John, 267
Schlotterer, George, 350
" Jesse, 374
Schlosser, Adam H., 374
" Stephen, 226
Schneider or Snyder, Frank, 54
" George, 197
" Henry, 366
" Isaac, 368
" John, 366
" John Henry, 301, 357
" Solomon, 48, 226, 365
Schultz, Rev. Christopher, 429
Schultze, David, 121, 127
Schwenk, George, 34, 39
" George & Henry, 39

Schwenk, Jacob, 34
" Nicholas, 11, 20, 21, 32, 33, 34, 40
Schweitzer, Henry, 22, 128, 135, 190, 364
" Lorrents, 98
Scull, Nicholas, 88, 119, 140, 143
Sell, Christopher, 275
" John, 14, 36
Seipt, Anthony, 375
Seitz, Frederick, 140, 357
Shambach, George, 232, 235
Shawecker, Martin, 357
Shell, Abraham, 373
Shelly, Jeremiah, 18, 47
" Philip, 267
Sherley, John, 134 453
Shietel, John, 73 243
Shippen, Edward, 119, 157, 360
Shister, Henry, 42 63
" James B., 410
" John, 302, 3 4
Shoemaker, Charles, 214
" George, 26, 29, 95
" Jacob, 75, 94, 137
" Jacob, 92
" Michael, 34, 95 131, 203, 205
Sholl, Frederick, 341
" John, 69
Shott, Abraham, 203
" John, 266
" John & Jacob, 33, 268
" John K., 272
Shrack, John, 11
Shroger, Goshen, 72 87
Shuler, Gabriel, 4, 6, 7, 12, 72, 183, 361
" Gabriel, Jr., 185
" John, 22, 174, 184, 190
" William, 184
Slifer, Abraham, 49
" Eli, 307
Slingluff, Henry, 100 375
Schmidt, Christopher, 101 02
Smith, Ephraim, 340
" George, 172
" Jacob, 18, 47, 302
" John, 57
" John, 116
" Joseph, 409
Snavely, Isaac Jacob & Mathias, 123, 136
Sonder, Christian, 230
" Dillman, 414, 417
" Jacob 216
" John D., 16 25, 3 5
Sower, Christopher, 42, 105, 283, 376 437
Stauffer, Christian, 2, 5, 77 376
" Christian, 3, 72, 77 79, 139
" Christian, 3, 80, 91
" Christian, 190
Stauffer, Eli, 80, 91
" Gerhart, 96
" John Ulrich, 79, 366
" John Ulrich, 96
" John, 192
" John, 255, 306
" John, 366
" John W., sheriff, 417
" Levi, 265, 269
" Mathias, 21, 79, 80, 301, 366
" Rudolph, 3 6
" Yellis, 79
Steel, James, 136, 151, 152, 298, 321, 329
Steiner, John, 200
Steinmetz, William B., 54
Stepen, Ulrich, 4
Stoll, Jacob, 353, 439
Stoner, John, 178
Stong, Henry, 116, 368, 366
" Jacob, 116, 368
" Peter, 17
" Philip, 115, 366
Story, Thomas, 119
Streib, David, 12, 13, 20, 3 3
Strickens, Henry, 438
Swartley, Henry, 90
" Henry, 245
" John G., 271
Swartz, Abraham, 337
" Andrew, 337
" Andrew, 329, 404
" Charles, 138, 195, 392, 317
" George, 54
" John, 337
" John, 330, 333, 360, 404
Swartzlander, Gabriel, 90

T.

Taylor, Jacob, 84, 118, 183, 299, 344
Tennis, Abraham, 360, 395
" William, 398, 402
Thaunton, "Jim," 45
Troxel, John J., 54
Trumbore, George, 369
Tyson, Abraham & Andrew, 76, 130
" Benjamin, 148
" Cornelious, 225
" Frank, 146, 148
" Jacob, 92
" Jacob, 161
" Joseph, 38
" Peter, 70, 95
" Theodore R., 74, 76, 94, 115
" William R., 47, 57

U.

Umstead, Jacob & John, 11, 18
Uplinger, Claus, 4, 330
" Nicholas, 6, 332, 387
Urweiler, Jacob, 135

V.

Van Bebber, Mathias, 69, 176, 215, 344
Vanderin, John, 11
Von-der-Schlotte, Rev. Frederick William, Jr., 243

W

Wack, Francis, 375
Wagley, George, 215, 234
" Hans Michael, 216, 233
Wagner, Dr. Abraham, 397 399, 402 446
" Frank, 147, 151
" Jacob, 155
" Melchoir, 17, 72, 79
" Michael, 35, 144, 155
Wambold, Charles Z., 364
" Enos, Sr., 209, 386
" Enos Z., 303, 308 329
" Jacob, 379
Wampole, Charles L., 78
" Frederick, 381
" Isaac W., 78, 130, 205
" Jacob, 391
Wasser, John, 73 214 238, 247
" Solomon, 70, 71, 93, 243
Weand, David, 192
Weber, Christian, Esq., 89
" Harrison, 205
" Henry, 252, 255
" Jacob, 406
Welsh, John, 71, 88
Weishe, Henry, 39
Weiser, Dr. C. Z., 417
Weiss, Rev. George Michael, 101, 416, 419
" Rev. George, 391, 431
Weirman family, 150
Weirman, Christian, 145, 148, 151, 279
" Hans, 149
" Henry, 149
" John, 150
" John, 267, 279
Wendler, William, 158, 162
Wentz, John, 22
Weyker, George, 137
" Hannah, 279
Wharley, Daniel, 142
White, Dorothy, 71
" James, 400
Wiegner, Christopher, 397
" Christopher, Jr., 133, 398
" George, 93, 96, 180
Williams, Rees, 120, 142, 146
" John, 53, 56
Wilhelm, Jacob, 193
Wile, Benjamin, 343
" Daniel, 192
" Henry, 354
" John, 341, 343
Wilks, Martha & Damarosa, 120
Wilson, Robert Clibborn & Benjamin, Esq., 399, 403
Wismer, Joseph, 175, 187
Wister, Casper, 75, 94, 98, 288, 330, 359
" Catharine, 288
Wolford, Henry D., 63

Y.

Yeakel, George, 396
" Joseph, 80
Yerger, John, 17, 19, 20
Yocum, James, 394
" James & William, 398
Yobe, Michael, 115
Young, Dewalt, 415

Z.

Zerg, Anna Maria, 388, 449, 450
Zieber John, 145, 148
" Philip, 368
Ziegler, Abraham, 144, 336
" Abraham K., 48, 54, 63, 130 200
" Abraham L., 35, 142, 144
" Andrew, 122, 127
" Rev Andrew, 122 130
" Benjamin, 140
" Dillman, 122, 127
" Dillman, 206, 209, 400
" George S., 200
" Henry, 76
" Henry, 130, 228, 259
" Isaac K., 209
" Jacob, 145, 146
" Jacob O., 207, 209
" Jesse, 95
" John, 35
" Michael, 122, 128 132, 134, 135, 227
" Michael 76, 122, 171
" Michael O., 129, 132, 344
" Nathaniel S., 204
" Samuel, 255
" Valentine, 209
" William S., 128, 144
Zimmerman, David, 134

This edition is limited to 75 copies.

[Written for the NEWS].

The Enrollment of Lower Salford in the Revolution.

The following list of names may be supposed to include those of the men living in Lower Salford at the time of the struggle for Independence. It will be even more interesting to the readers of the NEWS than the similar lists of Hatfield and Towamencin, because nearer home. The Salfords were German townships from the start and among this almost solid array of Teutonic names there are but two of British nationality — Tennis and Campbell. Curiously enough, one of them, Andrew Campbell, was made captain of the militia company of that time. The writer does not know how many of those enrolled in this militia company actually saw service in the American army.

The population of the two Salfords, although of the same racial origin, differed much in religious faith, and have always differed in politics—Upper Salford being as strongly Democratic as her sister township has been Whig and Republican. The first settlers of both townships brought along with them the language of their native land, as then spoken there by the working classes and farmers, and at the time of the Revolution this was almost solely in use in ordinary intercourse, as it continues partially so to the present day. From long separation from the language and literature of the parent stock in Europe, this tongue has gradually changed during five or six generations into the dialect popularly known as "Pennsylvania Dutch," and contains many English words, as better expressing the thought of the speaker than the words of the original tongue. A perusal of this old-time list shows how many of the same families are yet extant in the township and how tenacious they have been of the soil. These include the Alderfers, Harleys, Freeds, Clemmens', Reiffs, Kriebles, Zieglers and others.

CAPTAIN ANDREW CAMPBELL'S COMPANY OF MILITIA.

Joseph Alderfer	George Hedrick
Jacob Alderfer	Abraham Hunts-[berger
John Alderfer	
Abraham Alderfer	Isaac Kratz
Ludwig Ache, or Ox	George Krieble
Peter Becker	Jeremiah Krieble
Jacob Bossert	Abraham Krieble
Garret Clemens, Jr.	Fred'k Leightner
Abraham Clemens	Christ. Meyer, Jr.
Jacob Clemens	George Markley
John Clemens	George Martin
Samuel Delp	John Price
John Delp	George Rackstool
John Freed	Jacob Stong
William Garges	Philip Stong, Jr.
Isaac Grub	John Stong
Samuel Grub	Jacob Swenk
Andrew Grub	Gabriel Slider
Abraham Grub	Mathias Stover
Joseph Harley	William Tennis
Jacob Harley	Michael Wirsman
Henry Harley	William Yocum
Samuel Harley	Andrew Ziegler
Jacob Harple	Michael Ziegler

NON-ASSOCIATORS.

John Alderfer	George Hedrick
Jacob Alderfer	Christopher Hoff-[man
Joseph Alderfer	
Abraham Alderfer	George Kaupp
Frederick Alderfer	Daniel King
Herman Ache	Isaac Kaup
Abraham Grub	Gabriel Klein
Jacob Becker	Paul Kaupper
Peter Becker	Jeremiah Krieble
Andrew Campbell	Andrew Krieble
Jacob Clemens	Henry Letheback
Gerhart Clemens	Christian Moyer
Abraham Clemens	Isaac Markley
Jean Delp	George Markley
Samuel Delp	Daniel Price
Christopher Dick-[enshied	George Rackstool
	George Rick
Christian Darkey	Jacob Reiff
Christian Deff	Jacob Shoemaker
Peter Freed	Isaac Shoemaker, Jr
John Freed	Christian Smith
William Garges	Gabriel Slider
Godfrey Goldshalk	John Stong
Bernard Gosh	Christian Stover, Jr
Rudolph Harley	Christian Stover
Christian Hartman	Philip Stong
Henry Hellinger	William Tennis
Jacob Hechelinger	Henry Wirsman
Christian Hartman	Andrew Ziegler
Henry Harley	Philman Ziegler
Valentine Harley	Michael Ziegler
Abraham Hunts-[berger	William Yocum

Lower Salford Valuation.

The following data, taken from the books of the assessor, James B. Shisler, of Lower Salford, is interesting reading: Number of taxable inhabitants, 561; number of persons liable to military duty, 265. There are 8,524 acres of land in the township, 1,002 acres of unimproved land and 570 acres of woodland. The assessed value of all land in the township is $1,087,765, divided as follows: Improved land, $1,034,070; unimproved land, $35,695; land exempt from taxation, $18,000. There are in the township 561 horses, mares, geldings and mules over the age of 4 years, valued at $39,680, and 913 head of cattle over four years of age valued at $20,380. The value of yearly incomes, except farmers', is $36,875. The assessed value of all taxable property for county purpose in the township is $1,166,700. The mortgages, judgments, etc., except those given by corporations, foot up to $460,846. Number of male dogs, 181; female dogs, 8.

For the year 1891.

High Villages.

The upper part of Montgomery county is not more elevated, as a rule, than the middle portion, although we always say "up country." Pennsburg is 390 feet above sea level; East Greenville 400 feet. The Hosenach hills are 680. Sassamanville is 350 and Gilbertsville 330. Telford is 410, Franconia Square 400 and Harleysville only 270. Tylersport, on the summit of the ridge, is 550. Lederachsville 360, Schwenksville 200, Salfordville 380, Sumneytown 250 and Greenlane 240. Montgomeryville is 450, being 150 feet higher than Colmar. Hatfield is 320 and Line Lexington 350. Lansdale is 350, Montgomery Square 430, Three Tuns 370, and Prospectville only 350, notwithstanding its name.

Gotwals Family Longevity.

The Pottstown *Ledger* has the following: The entire surviving family of the late John Gotwals, of Upper Providence, Montgomery county, consists of four brothers and six sisters; of the latter five are widows. Their names and ages are as follows: Rev. Abraham Gotwals, of Greenboro, Md., 78 years 8 months; Mrs. Catharine Kratz, of Lower Providence, 76 years 9 months; Mrs. Jos. Brunner, of Mont Clare, 74 years 10 months; Mrs. Francis Detwiler, of York county, 73 years 4 months; Rev. Jacob Gotwals, of Oaks, 71 years 4 months; Mrs. Anna Sindlinger, of Norristown, 69 years 3 months; Mrs. Sarah Cassel, of Abilene, Kansas, 67 years 9 months; Mrs. Mary Place, of Mont Clare, 65 years 11 months; John Z. Gotwals, of Highlands, N. C., 63 years 4 months; Samuel Gotwals, of Cleveland, Ohio, 61 years 4 months. Aggregate, 702 years.

A LEGEND OF TOWAMENCIN.

BY JAMES Y. HECKLER.

When young Mr. Fry, as a pioneer settler,
Came up to Towamencin from Roxboro height,
He found there were Indians still roaming the country,
For an Indian village remained in his sight.

His land had been purchased along the Towamencin,
Not far from the Skippack, where Indians did roam:
He leveled the forest and worked out the timber,
He built a log cabin and called it his home.

'Twas only his temporary home for a season
At first when he labored a portion to clear,
Until he had cleared and had cultured two acres,
By grubbing and hoeing, before he moved there.

His regular home was still down at Roxboro,
Not far from the Schuylkill, where Leverings lived;
His mother was Wigart S. Levering's daughter,
From whom he much early instruction received.

Old Heinrich Fry was a "bach" when he married
Miss Catharine Levering of supple sixteen;
She said she would rather be the *wife* of an old man
Than a young man's *slave* as some others had been.

The women were scarce in those days in this country—
Miss Levering was one that old Fry could admire;
The parents permitting, ere long they were married
By Francis Pastorias, the Germantown 'Squire.

And then they had children, both Henry and Jacob,
Who came to Towamencin, where homes they soon gained—
And others who afterward went to Virginia
And passed out of notice by those who remained.

A tract in Towamencin was purchased for Jacob,
And afterward Henry chose also to come:
He purchased a tract of old Abraham Tennis
In the north of the township and made it his home.

But Jacob was first with his axe in the forest.
He met the brawny Indians and made them his friends,
Their village remained on the land he had purchased,
'Twas near where the present Fry's schoolhouse now stands.

On Monday morning he shouldered his wallet
Containing provisions enough for a week,
And wending his way to the hills of Mathatchey,
Went over them up to the Skippack creek.

On the hills of Mathatchey, northwestward from Fair View,
There then was a tavern, 'twas called the Blue Ball,
With good accommodations to travelers and others,
Where young Jacob Fry did occasionally call.

And other wood-choppers, about in the forest,
Were clearing some lands in the region around,
Along the Towamencin—all over the country,
The stroke of the woodman was heard to resound.

The Indians became so familiar with Jacob,
They often would stand by his side and would talk;
They showed him their skill with the bowstring and arrow
And how to make use of the little tomahawk.

The name of the chief in this while is forgotton
Who ruled o'er the tribe in the village near by,
He dwelt in his wigwam that stood in the forest,
And often went down there to see Mr. Fry.

And Fry, to show friendship, would give him some victuals,
Which pleased him so well that he danced all around,
By jumping and hopping, to show his good feelings,
Rejoicing, no doubt, for the friend he had found.

When Mr. Fry saw how it pleased the red chieftain,
To eat of his bread when he gave him a piece,
He thought he would try something more to the purpose,
And gave him a loaf, still better to please

He gladly accepted the loaf as a present,
Expressing his feelings by skipping around.
He took it and tossed it about in his gladness
And lastly, he rolled it along on the ground.

And he, the red chief, with a sense of good feeling
To Fry, for the kindness and friendship he sought,
Returning the compliment, into his cabin
One morning a saddle of venison brought.

But Fry, at some time, having cultured two acres,
Had settled himself on the land he had cleared,
And then he had fowls and two pigs for his bacon;—
He afterward there a large family reared.

To keep on good terms with the chief of the red men,
He afterward frequently gave him a loaf,
And always received in return for his kindness
Some bear's meat or venison, tender or tough.

In confidence trusting, the chief in his pleasure
Told Fry of his government over his tribe—
He punished all lying, he punished all stealing,
And none dare attempt to accept of a bribe.

Then Fry, inadvertantly speaking, responded,
"Your braves do not keep all the laws that you say."
"Why who," said the chieftain, "transgresses my mandates?
Now tell me immediately, tell me, I pray."

"Dogwhippins," said Fry, have been stealing some chickens,
Some pumpkins and corn—that is all that is known."
"My friend, can you prove it?" inquired the red chieftain.
"I can," was the answer from Fry—it was done.

And then he gave sentence, the penalty stated;
But Fry interceded to spare them alive.
But the resolute chief without pity or mercy,
Then told him not one should be left to survive.

The chieftain continued explaining the matter,
If he, as their ruler, of pilfering knew,
And left it unpunished, he made himself guilty
Of what they had done, and deserved punishment, too.

And calling together his braves, he gave orders
To go and to kill the Dogwhippins that night.
They went and they butchered them all—and their wigwam
Next morning presented a horrible sight.

But then the Dogwhippins were not in the village,
Although they belonged to the tribe that was there,
They lived on the Skippack, at the mouth of the Towamencin,
When they pilfered those chickens and acted unfair.

Harleysville, July 28, 1884.